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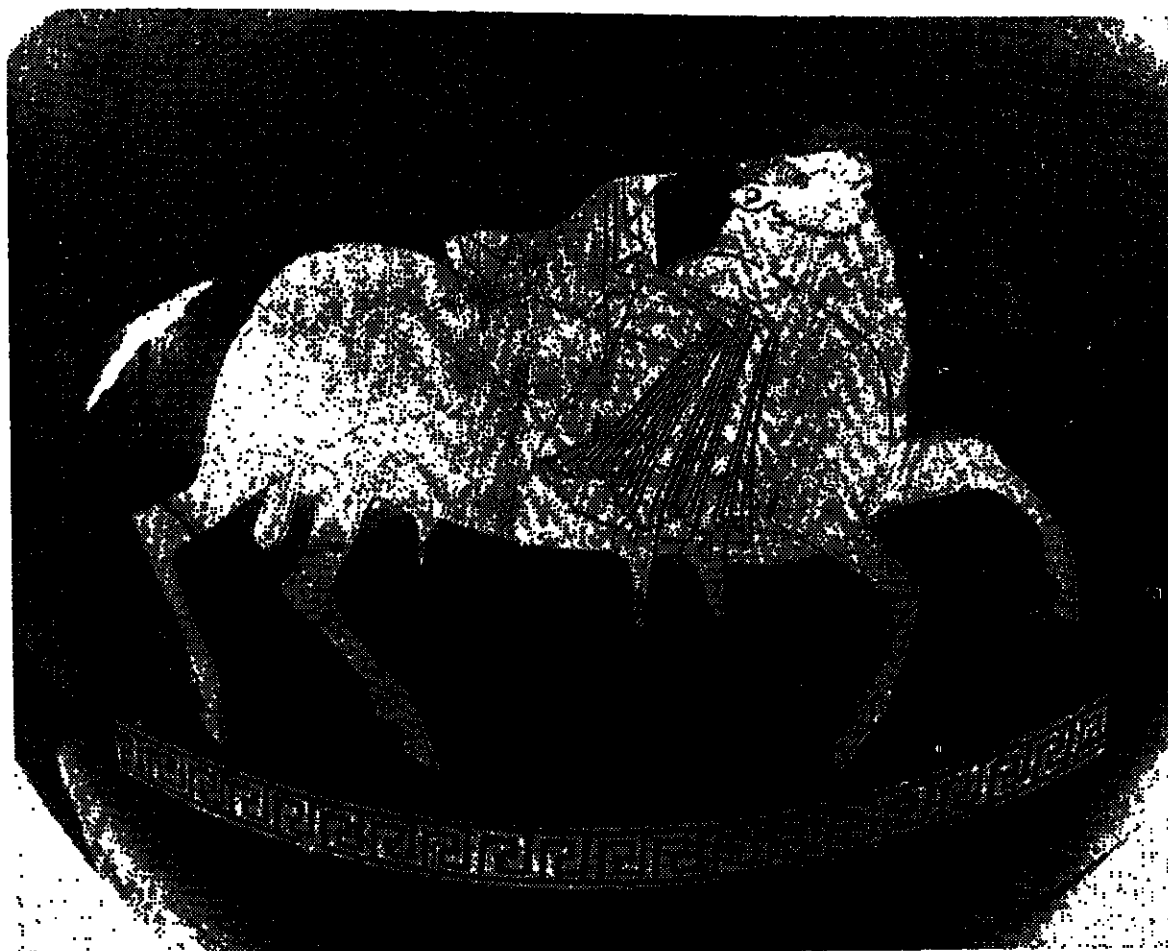
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Fragmentary hydria, Europa and the Bull, by the Berlin Painter, c. 500-490 B.C.; reproduced in the catalogue of the Benzel exhibition discussed on the back page.

## MATRIX AND MYTH

CLAUDÉ LÉVI-STRAUSS is pursuing two principal aims. He seeks to locate, to characterize as precisely as language will allow, the transition of the human race from a natural to a cultural state. Secondly he seeks to analyse the exact distinctions between mythical thought, between the uses of myth and essentially closed, formal structures of inference with which to interpret reality, and that species of thought which has gone beyond the mythical to pre-Socratic philosophy and modern scientific rationalism. The momentous step from the mythical to the analytic has been taken "only once in human history and in one place". The immense majority of human beings have persisted, since first they moved from a natural to a cultural condition, in those a-historical, often circular and primarily taxonomic modes of understanding which M. Lévi-Strauss characterized in *La Pensée sauvage*. The earlier book gave a general statement of "pre-philosophic" mentality; the work now in progress, *Mythologies*, is intended to deepen and substantiate that statement by a detailed study of psychological and linguistic processes in certain specific groups of American Indian myths.

American Indian tales, M. Lévi-Strauss has chosen to decode those groups which deal with a particular set of contrasting values and antithetical elements: the raw and the cooked, sour and sweet, moist and dry, clamour and silence. Behind these disjunctions, in which M. Lévi-Strauss identifies a fundamental bias of the human mind toward polarity, toward binomial groupings, lies the primal dissociation of the cultural from the natural. If we come to "read" the rich syntax of these legends of honey buzzard and wild pig, of anti-cater and constellations, we may come nearer to an understanding of the supreme event in human history (or at least of the traces which that event may have left in human consciousness): the change from natural man, literal kin-

tions of some 165 Indian myths dealing with the symbolic, ritual and psychological values of honey and tobacco. M. Lévi-Strauss contends that there is in the juxtaposition of these two substances—either overtly or under the guise of cognate pairs of opposites—nothing arbitrary: they stand for that complex set of dissociations by which the "primitive" mind symbolizes and communicates its sense of the radical antithesis between natural substance and cultural object. Honey and tobacco incarnate that differentiation between the near and far side of the act of cooking in which M. Lévi-Strauss locates man's divorce from the natural world (divorce from and control of being necessarily complementary). Set in a more general system of mythological inversion and permutation, viewed as binomial factors in the algebra of pre-philosophic thought, honey and tobacco are seen to be related to those divisions between the wet season and the dry, between light and dark, between plenty and famine, around which primitive man builds up his interpretive code of life. Honey, being a food wholly produced and reaped by nature, is on the far side of man's entrance into culture; tobacco, "which must be more than cooked, which must be burnt in order to be consumed", is emphatically on the near side (the fact that both can act as stimulants and aids to waking complicates but does not weaken their relations as dialectical opposites). The gap between them, the place of Promethean fire, marks the threshold to history. Across it lies the bridge of myth.

M. Lévi-Strauss does not make the crossing easy. Most of the myths he adduces are, certainly to the untrained ear, confused and lifeless. They lack the resonance, the active shape of Greek legend. But that, M. Lévi-Strauss would urge, is the point. In Greek mythology, as we know it, there is a radiant deception; the original matter of myth has been transmuted and given values of dramatic form by later philosophic interpretation. The seemingly repetitive fables

## LEADERS AND MISLEADERS

Some problems of Business Management—and relevant books on the subject—are discussed on pages 537 to 542.

## POPE JOHN

Though analysed with minute particularity, the 353 myths of the Bororo, Mundurucu or Arawak Indians cited in *Le Cru et le Cuit* and *Du miel aux cendres* are not an end in themselves. They are meant to constitute a "typology" of the mythological stages in the development of human thought. They are to clarify those devices of symmetry and symbolic inversion, of verbal play and thematic counterpoint whereby the human psyche—whose general structure M. Lévi-Strauss regards as common to all men—orders, interprets and transmits its experience of life before it has access to analytic logic.

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CLAUDE LÉVI-STRAUSS: *Mythologies*. Vol. II: *Du miel aux cendres*. 432pp. Paris: Plon, 42fr.

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فصل في



LE CORBUSIER: *The Radiant City*.

Although *L'ère de l'architecture* remains Le Corbusier's best-known, worst-translated and most-misquoted book, there can be no doubt that *La Ville radiante* is his most quintessentially Corbusian outpouring, and may yet prove to be the most disastrously influential. Compiled—rather than written—in 1933 at the end of his most productive period, with the Villa Savoye, the Swiss Students' Hotel and the Salvation Army *Hôtel de Refuge* all recently completed, but before the barren years of the middle and late 1930s and the consequent loss of architectural nerve revealed by his domestic architecture of those years, *La Ville radiante* summarizes the beliefs and discoveries, the design strategies and dialectical techniques of the 1920s, but is still unblemished by the frustration and megalomania that make so much of his later writing vaguely repellent.

It is a substantial compilation, running to almost 350 pages (in this adequate English translation) of the format that was later to become familiar in the seven volumes of the *Oeuvre Complète*. The first 200 or so pages are devoted to general argumentation on the topic of town-planning in the Machine Age. Most of the rest of the book presents specific plans for named cities. The repetition of material between these first and second parts is the book's most obvious fault as a work of propaganda, and reveals all too clearly how the argumentation has been set up to deliver certain foregone conclusions: the plans of the second part. None of these plans has been built, but other planners and architects have been proud and happy to repeat the conclusions in other places: the L.C.C. at Reckhampton, sundry commercial interests in the rebuilt down-town of Montreal, the Brazilians at Brasília... the list of emulators of that persuasive vision of tall slabs of flats or offices set above multi-level circulation, or in greenery laced with motorways, is worldwide.

If anything, Brasília with its heli-

Translated by Pamela Knight, Eleanor Leveux and Derek Colman.

bent disregard for everything except the geometrical purity of the original concept is the truest interpreter of the paradigmatic model of urbanism that the book proposes, for the essence of both the argumentation and the individual schemes proposed by *La Ville radiante* is always reduction to a simple geometrical model—Rio de Janeiro as an inhabited freeway sub-structure swinging from hill to hill, or the business district of Algiers packed into a single building on the waterfront.

Such elementary concepts are, of course, easily grasped and equally easily retained in the mind (in the case of some of our most distinguished planners they have, unfortunately, been retained unchanged for thirty years). Further, they promote the reassuring proposition that town planning is fundamentally simple, a matter of Gordian strokes of the administrator's pen or planner's pencil—and that any failure of town planning is therefore due to the timidity of administrative decision-makers, not the inadequacy of executive planners.

There may well be a large measure of truth in this assessment of responsibility, but it cannot be allowed, by retrospection, to excuse the inadequacies of the arguments put forward by Le Corbusier in this book—above all, his ignorance of the technologies of his time. It is not a question of "Nobody knew better at the time", because many specialists did, and their knowledge was publicly available to those who cared to find it out. But Le Corbusier seems only to have sought out the information that would support his foregone conclusions.

The two most glaring examples in *La Ville radiante* concern air-conditioning and traffic-intersections. While admitting that he was right, and to be praised, in identifying both as crucial problems in the design of the type of high-density cities he had previously determined to promote, his misuse of available expert opinion on both is damnable. On air-conditioning he seems to have totally ignored the substantial body

of practical knowledge and ingenious inventions that had accumulated in the previous three decades, and to have devised his own off the top of his head. It features hermetically sealed buildings enclosed in double walls of glass with temperature-controlled air circulating inside them, plus total recirculation and processing of all the air in the inhabited spaces within, and the maintenance of a standard temperature of 18deg. C. in all circumstances and all over the world, irrespective of local need or preference.

The crudity and wastefulness of these proposals is equalled only by their lag behind what had already been more subtly done in the United States, and by the crookedness of Le Corbusier's attempt to give them "scientific" support by referring the reader to some length (a page and a half) to certain tests on the heated-wall system of his invention that had been conducted at the laboratories of Saint-Gobain—relying, no doubt, on the unlikelihood of any of his readers looking up the references. This reader has, and discovered the results of the tests were quite inconclusive on everything except double-glazing, which was hardly an invention at that date.

In the case of the clover-leaf intersection (of which Le Corbusier presents himself only as the re-inventor, though he seems not to have known that the idea goes back to 1906 and was patented ten years later) the witness he summons in his support is a diagram of the various types of intersection in use in New Jersey ("Last minute confirmation: in the U.S.A. . . ."). The only clover-leaf among them (at Paramus, New Jersey) is dated 1930, three years before *La Ville radiante* was published, and already has, in vestigial form, something which Le Corbusier's clover-leaves do not—merging lanes. Two years later (and still before the book was sent to the printers) the express-way system in the Bronx and Queens had fully developed merging lanes, enabling entering streams of traffic to interweave with the main flow without disaster.

But Le Corbusier simply delivers

346pp. Faber and Faber. £8 8s.

entering traffic direct into the main flow, and at an angle of almost forty-five degrees. The reason for this is not only a desperate lack of technological imagination, but also a delightfully clear geometrical symbol which he is not prepared to sacrifice in the interests of reality. His clover-leaf is tight and regular as a medieval quattrifoglio, the two highways crossing at exact right-angles.

People will say . . . "What about the infinite variations (excessively acute or obtuse angles, cross roads, multiple intersections) that constitute the reality of our cities?" But that is precisely the point. I eliminate all those things. That is my starting point. With the high-speed traffic of today we are obliged to take that as our starting point, otherwise we shall never get anywhere . . . I insist on right angled intersections.

Here, as nowhere else, we see the motive behind the insistence on the geometrical purity of the original concept. Finding the world too complex and too disorderly to contemplate, he takes refuge in talismanic forms, "truth from diagrams", as he called it. It is this *peur de réalité* that cripples the book as a town planning primer, turns the demands for urgent action to deal with slums or confront the menace of traffic into empty rhetoric. Yet, if it is of doubtful value to the town planner, there can be no doubt of its value to the historian of planning. In its pages of artfully collaged newspaper-clippings, diagrams, models, views of ancient monuments and modern cities, machinery, *objets d'art*, cartoons, portraits, sketches, slogans, trade catalogues and graphs, the second great vision of twentieth-century urbanism was born. Like the first—Ebenezer Howard's Garden City—it has proved inadequate.

Unlike the Garden City, it has yet to be replaced, and has bred equally diagrammatic and inflexible offspring: Megastucture in the United States, Metabolism in Japan, the Plug-in City of the British Archigram Group. In the pathology of urban utopianism in our time, *La Ville radiante* is a fundamental diagnostic document.

## FIGURES OF ART

PIERRE CABANNE: *Rubens*. Translated by Oliver Bernard. 286pp. Thames and Hudson. 35s. Paperback, 21s.

Anyone, however gifted or perceptive, who attempts to write a general assessment of Rubens's life and work sets himself a prodigious task, so many and various are the sides to this master's genius. We may recall that Burckhardt's classic, *Erinnerungen aus Rubens*, published posthumously, was the product of a life's study. His title suggests that Burckhardt had not planned a comprehensive monograph. In the present case the author surveys Rubens's career roughly chronologically but not without the occasional repetition, which suggests hasty writing.

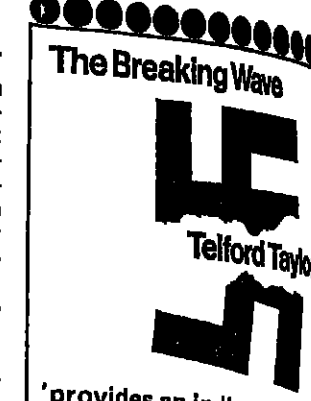
One of the main points that emerge from the present book is that the author is convinced that Rubens left very little work to his assistants. While we might take this as compliment to the master's genius and, in many instances, a measure of his great capacity to inspire his assistants, no adequate grounds are given to support this assertion. We have, of course, inherited the nineteenth-century romantic notion that true genius ought to stand alone. It does not, perhaps, make it altogether easy for us to adjust ourselves to the idea of an active studio, as such organizations barely exist any more.

The enormous output credited to Rubens with his name does not square with the idea of the lone genius. But the young Rubens must have seen during his visit to Italy what the possibilities for him were in this direction. No doubt on his return to Flanders where he set up his highly organized studio in Antwerp he was consciously modelling himself on his great and similarly fecund precursor Raphael. In assessing Rubens's qualities as an artist and charting his development one inevitably draws the wrong conclusions about him if one fails to appreciate the importance of his situation as an impresario.

M. Cabanne writes with enthusiasm about Rubens's paintings, but his interpretation of them lays too much stress on the sensuality of his art, and far too little on his intellectual control. Very little indeed is said on the drawings, although a reasonable percentage of the reproductions is devoted to them. What, however, is very curious is the number of these which are either only what are usually termed "School" drawings or even drawings which are clearly by another hand. The study for an "Entombment", plate 14, is almost certainly an early drawing by Jordaens, while plate 111 is by Cornelis de Vos. A number of the remaining plates reproduce drawings which are too weak to be from Rubens's own hand. This cannot be explained merely because the author has drawn almost exclusively on the drawings at the Louvre, where there is a fine collection of authentic examples from which to choose.

The author's discussion of some of the paintings shows his agreement with the judgments of attribution or status expressed in the catalogue of the splendid exhibition held at Brussels in 1965 entitled *Le Siècle de Rubens*, with some unfortunate results. For instance, can we be so sure that the "Lot and his Family" was painted by Rubens? Its composition incidentally is reproduced here from a copy in the Louvre print room, without this being made clear to the reader. Surely the technique of this painting strongly suggests Jordaens. Similarly, why is the full-length of "Saint Ignatius" from Sibiu, formerly Herminstadt, a work of such indifferent quality, favoured with a mention in preference to the magnificent canvas of the same subject at Warlock?

Despite this lack of precision on points of connoisseurship the account given of the ironic situations arising out of Rubens's position as both artist and diplomat makes entertaining reading. But in general this book cannot be considered a satisfactory assessment of Rubens's achievement, and the plates are poor in quality.



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CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD: *A Meeting by the River*. 160pp. Methuen. 21s.

Chris has complained that they find Mr. Isherwood's recent work embarrassing. Its awkward combination of Vedic play and sexual frankness—old camp, as it were, in new dress—provokes many nostalgic sighs for the drier observations of his *Isywood* in Berlin. It seems safe to predict that this book will provoke more. If you blushed at *A Meeting by the River*.

The river is in India. Meeting (as fashionable captions say) Oliver, a young Englishman who has entered a Hindu monastery and is about to take his final vows as a monk; and Patrick, his elder brother, a successful publisher on route from Los Angeles, has been negotiating a film contract and enjoying a young (male) Californian. Patrick writes letters to his wife, to Tom in California, to his mother; Oliver writes about a journal that may be a spiritual self-indulgence anyway. (Presumably he decides that it is not, since the journal and Patrick's letters constitute the entire text of the book.) There is a struggle, of a sort, for Oliver's soul, or what we loosely call his soul—there is also a quantity of such running repairs on spiritual vocabulary—but finally it is worldly Patrick who suspects that he is guilty of self-deception. Oliver takes his vows, Tom is renounced, and perhaps both have learnt something from the encounter.

The embarrassment is widely distributed. Patrick's letters drip with self-congratulation, with all-things-to-all-men smoothness, with ill-considered envy of Oliver's calm. He is clever enough to pick out his brother's weak spots, accusing him of false humility or genuine escapism; sometimes his arguments ring uncomfortably familiar to the average western reader. But Oliver is an embarrassment too—presumably a deliberate one: not only for the Tolstoyan directness with which he challenges the world of *mayas*, or secular illusion, but for the breathless charmlessness with which he describes his intimations of holiness. It is a further embarrassment, of course, to find oneself passing such Patrick-like aesthetic judgments on a moral issue. But it is hard not to think of the Communist boy-scout in *Goodbye to Berlin* who found everything "ripping".

Indeed, it is possible to make a case for embarrassment as a central theme of all Mr. Isherwood's work. Philip in *All the Conspirators*, Eric in *The Memorial*, Peter Wilkinson in *Goodbye to Berlin*, are all liable to hot flushes and fits of moral self-denunciation. Embarrassment is notoriously an affliction of the over-scrupulous, the introspective, the critical students of their own motivation—or, as Mr. Isherwood himself would say, the Puritans. During the 1930s and 1940s it was Freudian Puritanism that held the lead: hence Mr. Isherwood's very exact sense of self-deception in everyday trivia. The narrator of *Prater Violet* liddles with the locks on a tea-caddy to conceal his desire to stay in the room; Stephen Monk in *The World in the Evening* is a victim of a textbook self-inflicted accident. Nor is this just any novelist's sense of the minutiae of character. Puritan observation is a form of transferred introspection, a relentless nagging for honesty. George Eliot and Mr. Isherwood are Puritan observers; Dickens and Angus Wilson are not.

From concern with motive to concern with embarrassment is not too far-fetched a step. Embarrassment follows exposure: the honest and self-knowing man has nothing to conceal, and therefore nothing to expose. He is integrated—by analysis, by meditation, by renunciation, by what-have-you—and therefore unashamed. But the road to this blessed state is complicated. Oliver finds Patrick doing his morning exercises, naked, in the monastery guest-room.

I couldn't help being aware of his rather big penis slapping against his bare thigh as he jumped. . . . I was embarrassed and wanted to look away. But Patrick was grinning at me as if he was challenging me to admit that, I felt awkward about looking at him, so I had to go on doing it. And I knew that he was sort of

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## I DUNNIT

GILLIAN TINDALL: *The Youngest*. 222pp. Secker and Warburg. 27s. 6d.

On the face of it we have been here before. Gillian Tindall's latest novel bears all the characteristics of what we might call the Drabble school of the mid-1960s. Elizabeth: intelligent, articulate, educated, sensitive, a bit of a teacher here, the odd thing there, in between looking after her husband, Jo and three small sons. Location: large, Victorian, shabby but OK house somewhere in north-west London. But disaster strikes and complexity sets in; in four days, carefully timed to complete the family, is born hopelessly deformed: a terrible, crucial, nullifying mistake in the logical thesis of Elizabeth's life. She smother's it.

Gillian Tindall has used the trappings of the woman novelist before, the sensitive, rational treatment of love, sex, and pregnancy; but with her they are never used for their own sake. She explores the familiar female experiences to get at deeper, more general themes. The problem

here is not, what does a woman do about a deformed child but, what does Elizabeth's condition, initially unquestioning, action tell her about herself? After the baby's death, Elizabeth becomes increasingly disturbed, and by a hard journey of self-discovery—like Miss Tindall's other novels, *The Youngest* is a kind of psychological detective story of the soul—she realizes that the baby has been just one more incident in the consistent line of her spiritual development, her rejection of responsibility towards others, her self-absorption and self-assertion, her conviction that independence can be achieved by sheer effort of will. Her mother, sister, and husband are shown to have been subtly sacrificed in the process.

It has always seemed before that Miss Tindall's use of symbolism has been strong but not wholly integrated into her schemes. But here the deformed baby is the terrifying, pathetic nexus of the book, revealing Elizabeth's guilt, triggering her self-discovery and itself resulting from her actions. Gillian Tindall has always been fascinated by the act of naming: of creating reality and at the same time de-fusing its terrors. In another book, *The Edge of the Paper*, one character is terrified of unburdening herself:

She feared the act, as giving more reality to facts only half understood and half acknowledged. There seemed to her something obscene about horror revealed to another, like a shameful monster, brought forth into the light of day, carrying an old cruel taint of curse and blame, needing only to be hurried quickly under the cleansing earth. . . .

In *The Youngest*, the monster materializes, totally unexpected, the first indication that there is anything to unburden. In its complexity and insight, this is Miss Tindall's best book so far.

It has always seemed before that Miss Tindall's use of symbolism has been strong but not wholly integrated into her schemes. But here the deformed baby is the terrifying, pathetic

water mains, the village mob hounds Coral to disaster.

Here, as in her earlier novels, Shena Mackay evokes a battle between children and adults. Coral is less a woman who prefers her own moral standards than a child embattled against authority. Her lovers barely figure in the narrative: "I want to be sufficient unto myself, like a tree, quietly rotting away." Her fantasy is like that of a child who dreams of living in a tree house; and it is part of the fantasy that nature should be sympathetic. Coral has few qualms about the food she steals from local farmers but one night, caught by her coat on a wire fence, she fears that a creaking elm might betray her because of the fruit she has stolen from the trees.

The adult world is portrayed with

the contempt of a rebellious teenager, and this has a distinctly limiting effect—strong characters are cruel and usually hypocrites and the weak are pathetic. There are times when Miss Mackay's callousness seems ostentatious. Her method yields a gallery of predatory grotesques persistently involved in ludicrous attempts to bolster their own dignity at one another's expense. The moral is crude but the novel's macabre encounters between predator and prey are handled with notable precision and the short elliptical scenes occasionally swell into lyricism. The verbal inventiveness that Miss Mackay displays so coolly in all her writing has deservedly received much praise: it is a pity that she hasn't used it more purposefully.

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## MEN'S MEN

JAMES JONES: *Go to the Widow-Maker*. 575pp. Collins. 30s.

Once again Eternity Jones has taken a title from a Kipling poem, to illustrate his strong feelings about masculine comradeship and his, perhaps reluctant, conviction that men must fight and women must weep. The "old grey Widow-maker" is, of course, the sea. But Jones's hero, Ron Grant, is not a seaman, merely a talented thirty-six-year-old American writer who is learning how to skin-diver and spear fish, from professional men whom he can handomely pay. As the hired men congratulate him on his excellent performance in the water, his courage, his strength, his willingness to fist-fight with bigger men, as they explain away his knee-trembling on deck contrasted with his cool fearlessness in the water, as they fling their arms about his neck or offer him Roman handshakes—the reader feels an uneasy suspicion that the writer is being taken for a ride.

Perhaps James Jones feels this himself. He is certainly well aware of the mocking cracks that can easily be made about this Whitman-Hemingway buddyism. The obvious content is brutally made by the angrily waiting women, who mutter about "half-fag outdoorsmen". Yet these wealthy girls, themselves in the "celebrity" bracket, take just the same kind of upper-class pleasure in men who do physical work not for sport but for economic necessity. The very girl who calls her husband "half-fag" is attracted to one of the hirelings because of his "dirty-Irish-cod, smelly-motorbike" image. The hirelings call their paymasters "The Chosen", and hope or dream that they will themselves, one day, join the elite. Then they, too, would have to worry about their virility, and about whether they were loved by other men for their prowess or their money.

Some Americans feel that there is too much violence in American life.

James Jones's characters seem to find too little; they have to go searching for fist-fights and other risks. Ron Grant earnestly presents his theory that men like himself are still small boys remembering naked fathers glimpsed from the bathroom door. One of the merits of Jones's work is that such explanations never read like slick theories from a psychology handbook, but more like some conviction derived from the character's personal experience. In this he resembles Jack Kerouac—another American who is convinced that strong men should be able to love one another. A weird element in this complex situation is the friends' willingness to commit dangerous adulteries with each other's women, and the way possible cuckolds contemplate the possibility and wonder whether they are drawing closer to their men-friends.

The underwater action is very well described, the sexual activity somewhat allusive and confusing. On dry land and out of bed, though, the enraged women are far more interesting than the complacent sportsmen—clients and white hunters—who are often too drunk to offer much except oaths and challenges. James Jones has a good ear for accents: he can manage Jamaican better than many British authors, who tend to confuse this dialect with Hollywood-Alabama. But he overdoes it, especially when doggedly mimicking a Frenchman. The principal hireling has a voice which changes class, rather like Melors's, according to whether he is dealing with mates or clients. It would be interesting to have the whole story written again, from his point of view, concentrating rather on economics than on psychology, on Marx rather than Freud. There is more than one way of dealing with the alienation of man from man.

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## MICHAEL FRAYN

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'Continuing moments of high comedy . . . extremely well-written, witty novel . . . what a tremendous sense of place he has' ELIZABETH BERRIDGE, D. TELEGRAPH 21s

## JAMES JONES

GO TO THE WIDOW-MAKER

'His best book since *From Here to Eternity* . . . he carries the sexual revolution well beyond Hemingway' SATURDAY REVIEW

'There are few who will not have been captured by the power and narrative drive, for James Jones is a very considerable writer . . . he has succeeded remarkably' THE BOOK SOCIETY 30s

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COLLINS

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ELIZABETH R



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UNIVERSITY PRESS

## BRAIN RACE

MICHAEL BAR-ZOHAR: *The Hunt for German Scientists*. Translated by Len Ortzen. 207pp. Arthur Barker, 25s.

To the victor belong the spoils. The First World War appeared to contradict the old maxim when disappointment over the possibility of exacting reparations from the loser made some people (but only on the Allied side) begin to doubt who had really won. The end of the Second World War found no one sanguine about immediate gains, and yet produced a new and unexpected benefit to many of the victors in the form of brain-power. All the belligerents tried to bring into employment the best of the German scientists and technicians who fell into their hands or whom they could uncover by means of special teams of searchers. In Britain the Admiralty was the main gainer, with a few rocket specialists for the Air Ministry. The Americans and the Russians had much more inflated ideas and this book is principally devoted to an account of how these two powers, the Americans leading, hunted down their prey.

In point of time the first preoccupation on the Allied side was with atomic scientists. This was because of war-time apprehensions rather than postwar aspirations. It was taken for granted that Germany, where the fission of the uranium atom had first been demonstrated by Hahn in 1938, must also be working on the production of an atomic bomb, and from the moment it became clear that the thing could be done it seemed highly probable that the brilliant German scientists, with the resources of the Nazi state at their disposal, would be at least level with the Allies and might even be ahead. As soon as the invasion of Europe became imminent a special task force was formed to descend on captured laboratories and interrogate captured physicists. With some disregard for security it was given the code name Alsos, for this, being the ancient Greek for *grove*, pointed rather too directly to General Leslie Groves, executive head of the Manhattan Project; for that matter the unit's sleeve badge, a white alpha with a red streak across it, hinted too openly at atomic fission. It first went into action in Italy, from December 1943 to March 1944, but found nothing of value. Men from Alsos entered liberated Paris with the advance troop and

went straight to Joliot-Curie's laboratory. By the same evening they had learnt that the Germans were certainly working on the military uses of uranium but had made little progress. It was not until Alsos could enter Germany that the truth could be established of how far behind the Germans had been. It is a good story, well told, that ends with the capture of the bulk of the German atomic scientists and their last, nearly successful, pile at Haigerloch in Swabia. It is unfortunate for Mr. Bar-Zohar that English readers have already been given the story in greater detail in Mr. David Irving's *The Virus House*, published this year.

He has a clearer field in his account of the search for the German rocket experts. He traces rocket development from its beginnings to the belated and limited success of the V2. Here was a department where the Americans were behind the Germans, two years behind according to General Vandenberg, and they were not scrupulous in snatching all the best-known experts from under the noses of their allies and, of course, the Russians. Nevertheless the latter were now aware of the chance of such valuable booty, and went into action on a vast scale. Whereas the Americans had shipped across the Atlantic some 300 experts, the Russian, in one day, October 22, 1946, rounded up 5,000 in ninety-two special trains. Settled on an island in a lake 200 miles north of Moscow they continued the work begun in Peenemünde and just a year later, in October, 1947, the first Russian-built rocket soared into the sky of Kazakhstan. The bulk of the Germans were repatriated in 1953, the last only after the launching of the first Sputnik, in October, 1957.

The atom and the rocket are Mr. Bar-Zohar's main themes but he touches briefly on the small-scale French recruitment of German scientists and, more dramatically, on the Germans who went to work for Nasser, attracting the unwelcome attentions and parcel-bombs of the Israeli secret service. His book, which was first published in French in 1965, has been excellently translated by Mr. Len Ortzen. It reads as well as if it had been written in English and its easy style will commend an exciting story to English readers.

## CALCULUS CONTROVERSY

W. H. BROCK (Editor): *The Atomic Debates. Brodie and the Rejection of the Atomic Theory*. 186pp.

Symptomatic of the increasing specialization and professionalism of the history of science is the growing stream of monographs and studies devoted to minor figures and recalcitrant technical controversies. Sir Benjamin Brodie, one-time Waynflete professor of chemistry at Oxford, was not of outstanding importance on the Victorian scientific scene, and his 'calculus of chemical operations' provided a more than usually bizarre focus for scientific debate. Succeeding generations soon forgot both the man and his ideas. Now, thanks to the devoted editorial labours of Dr. W. H. Brock, Brodie's calculus has been resurrected as a 'form of operationalism which preceded and anticipated Bridgman's use of the term by some sixty years'.

The present work consists of three essays. The first (by Dr. Brock and Dr. D. M. Knight) seeks to set the background of nineteenth-century scepticism toward chemical atoms, against which Brodie's calculus must be seen. The second essay (by D. M. Knight) outlines the nature of the calculus itself, while the third contribution consists of a variety of correspondence by such scientists as Morgan, Horsfield and Cruik Brown. It is this final section, written only over Williamson's and Brodie's handwriting, that will prove of greatest value to future historians. In it we see presented, in full documentary detail, the reactions of a number of important figures to an ingenious but unorthodox solution of the chemical problem of the 1860s. The exposition of the calculus itself, though careful and sensitive, may well leave the casual reader as mystified as were many of Brodie's audience. Any serious student of the period will have to wrestle with the calculus for

himself, though this introduction will certainly assist the study of the original papers.

The first essay is the least satisfactory. Failure to state clearly, and to differentiate between, the variety of meanings attributable to such words as atom, positivist and realist, render the exposition almost as confused and desultory as the chemical debates that the authors wish to clarify. Neither the major intellectual traditions which lay behind the almost continuous 'atomic debates' of the nineteenth century, nor the sheer practical difficulties involved in carrying through any systematization of chemical knowledge are sufficiently delineated. While the book may entertain the practicing mathematician and chemist, a lighter touch would have better served such an end. What the philosophers will make of it remains to be seen, though one may doubt the wisdom of providing material from the day before to illustrate such a yesterday's fashion as operationalism.

The appearance of this volume testifies to the growing unwillingness of historians of science to study only 'great men'. Indeed, the editor is to be commended for producing an account of a controversy previously neglected, yet in many ways so typical of its period. Unfortunately such a congratulation must be tempered with reservation. Past minor controversies, when insufficiently related to the main debates of their period, remain the saddest science of all.

Collins have reissued Elizabeth Wislizenus's *Europe of the Dictators 1919-1945* (267pp., 30s.) in hard cover. It originally appeared in paperback at 8s. 6d. last year. The book, which is aimed at the general reader and intended mainly as a textbook, was reviewed in these columns on June 2, 1966.

## FIRST FLIGHTS

HAROLD PENROSE: *British Aviation. The Pioneer Years 1903-1914*. 607 pp. Putnam, £4 4s.

Sixty years ago England was hub-bub with uncoordinated attempts by a dozen young hopefuls to build flying machines and get them to fly. The Government was only mildly interested and was not generously disposed. Some local authorities regarded these lunatic aviators as a nuisance. The enthusiasts thought they knew where they were going and were not to be discouraged even when they were down to their last golden sovereign and could not see where the next stock of spruce or fabric or dope was to come from. A few saw the chance of getting into a new industry on the ground floor and had been set up by Sir George White at Bristol, and Boxkell from stable had actually made their way to India where a young officer, Sefton Branker, complete with monocular, had been flown on his aerial reconnaissance.

The eagles assuredly were going and finding their tasks immensely despite the risk and the cost. The worry fell on their shoulders. The Roe family could not handle the flying, and it had been left to Humphrey undertook to manage it. Geoffrey de Havilland, rector father down in Bockley, wrote a little pathetically to *The Times* suggesting that the venture in the Litan: 'That is my plan. These to preserve all that tried by land or water' might not be an addendum 'or by air'.

They are all gone now except Oswald Short, the youngest of the three brothers and, with the help of two wars, they all secured rewards. Mr. Penrose has been down to an age which takes it for granted one of the most pictures of those who set the side of it going, and of the courage and sacrifice which they gave to their mission. His industry in the social and political work of the time makes his book one of the most valuable and, at the same time, most readable of its kind.

All the names that were to become famous are here, and here too are the tales of how they took their first arduous steps towards fame. By all reasonable standards A. V. Roe ought to have been defeated, driven as he was out of Brooklands and virtually chased off the Lea Marshes. Richard Fairey might never have got a start if Gamage's had not taken up one of his model aircraft. Geoffrey de Havilland was the lucky one who was given £1,000 by an indulgent grandfather and Handley Page was the shrewd one who launched a company with £10,000 capital before

any of his machines had flown. He Short brothers likewise were fortunate to be manufacturers, licensed by the Wrights, rather than inventors.

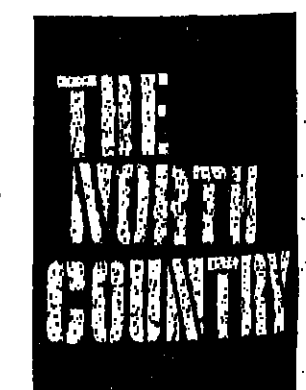
Cody was the only one who got any help from the government. He de Havilland and his second aircraft were taken over by the War By then, Tom Sopwith with motor mechanic, Fred Sigrist, had come almost casually into the picture and found a dashing way to make pay for itself in prize money. Then, too, a flourishing company with sufficient funds and equipment had been set up by Sir George White at Bristol, and Boxkell from stable had actually made their way to India where a young officer, Sefton Branker, complete with monocular, had been flown on his aerial reconnaissance.

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## Graham Turner

'It is a brilliant piece of work. Mr. Turner has a sharp eye for the significant fact, and a sharp ear for the significant phrase... Mr. Turner's picture of Britain's two nations is exact, detailed, arresting. It is a major contribution to contemporary social history.' *Charles Curran, Sun, Telegraph* 5 maps, 50s



## J.P. Donleavy

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'J.P. Donleavy's triumph in this book lies in the patient that he superimposes on the free-ranging fantasies of a neurotic expatriate a superb achievement in economy and style.' *Neville Braybrooke, Spectator*

## Vinland Voyage

JOHN ANDERSON

The British Vinland Expedition has added important navigational evidence to the probability that Norse settlers of the 11th century attempted to colonise New England. J. R. L. Anderson presents his conclusions after a remarkable voyage in a 44-ft. sailing boat from Dover to the Faeroes, Iceland, Greenland and America. 28 plates, 3 maps, 45s



## WHEN THE GERMANS HAD TO STOP

Telford Taylor: *The Breaking Wave. The German Defeat in the Summer of 1940*. 378pp. Weldenfeld and Nicolson. £2 10s.

In the summer of 1940 the German land which would make 'Sealion' unnecessary or at least reduce its scope to the administration of a *coup de grace*. Admiral Raeder and the German navy were apprehensive of 'Sealion' and hoped that it would never be launched, while Goering and the Luftwaffe, confident that they could do the job alone, had no time, for it.

A study of German documents reveals an abyssal lack of inter-service cooperation or understanding, and the planning for 'Sealion' emerges almost as a farce when it is compared even with the smaller seaborne landings carried out by the British and Americans in the same war. The indecision and delay as the summer weeks went by were to prove disastrous to Germany and one must ask what had happened to the great general staff. It may be that, as some German historians claim, Hitler by his personal interventions had already destroyed the chain of command, and the now famous order of May 24, which halted the German armour before Dunkirk, was the first manifestation of it. There is, however, reason to believe that this was in fact an order given by Rundstedt for sound military reasons and approved by Hitler. However that may be, Brigadier-General Telford Taylor is right to conclude that one of the most striking aspects of this remarkably critical period is the decline of the German General Staff in the initiation and evolution of strategic policy. Whether Hitler seriously intended to launch an opposed landing in England seems doubtful and, as the author points out, there may have been a tacit understanding about this at the top. But whatever happened, two vital decisions should have been taken: the first to determine where new operations against Britain could best be initiated and the second to put the German economy on a long-war footing and plan to strengthen the Wehrmacht accordingly. No such decisions were taken.

In the background loomed Russia, the only country outside Britain which seemed neither dazed by the fall of France nor unduly impressed by Hitler's victories. The author recalls that 'sudden burst of aggressive diplomacy in the Kremlin' which followed the signing of the Franco-German armistice at Compiègne. Hitler now had to reckon

with Russian pressures which disturbed the security of his eastern frontiers and upset the tranquillity of the Balkan states where Germany was particularly sensitive to any interruption of her oil supplies from Ploesti. Russia, in addition to her annexation of the Baltic states, Bessarabia and Bucovina, was giving Hitler some other ideas.

On July 13, in conference with Brauchitsch and Halder, Hitler diagnosed Britain's obstinacy as 'hope in Russia', and on July 31 he told his army commanders that 'Britain's hope lies in Russia and the United States. If Russia drops out of the picture America too is lost for Britain, because elimination of Russia would tremendously increase Japan's power in the Far East.' But the road to Moscow was not to prove a practicable route to England.

This book is of particular importance: it contains a mass of well-digested and clearly produced information, is painstakingly documented and includes extremely interesting and important accounts both of the Battle of Britain and the invasion project as seen from the German side.

Mr. Gladden's narrative is a remarkable picture of how men lived in battle, in the trenches and at rest, and of how they died. There are a few adverse criticisms of officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, but very few indeed. Two of the first-named, the Army Commander, General Sir Herbert Plumer, and Major-General Sir J. M. Babington, who was to distinguish himself as a corps commander in Italy, come in for special admiration.

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## IN THE TRENCHES

E. NORMAN GLADDEN: *Ypres 1917. A Personal Account*. 192pp. William Kimber. 36s.

The author, a private in the Northumberland Fusiliers, confines himself almost entirely to his personal experiences in the Battles of Messines—a smashing victory, quickly achieved at relatively small cost—and at Third Ypres—also a victory but a terribly bloody and slow one, in 1917. He has evidently realized that there must be some representation of strategy and has provided it succinctly by historical notes between his chapters.

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## THE FIRST LORD HAW-HAW

Norman Baillie-Stewart, as told to JOHN MURDOCH: *The Officer in the Tower*. 304pp. Leslie Frewin. 35s.

In January, 1946, Mr. Justice Oliver, in his sentence of five years' imprisonment on the subject and particulars of this autobiography ('as told to John Murdoch'), began with the following striking exordium. 'Norman Baillie-Stewart, you, I regret, are one of the worst citizens that any country has ever produced.' He doubted at the time such a judgment, even though weakened by the patently pedantic 'I suggest' which accompanied well with the national mood; but twenty-one years after there is a danger that they might strike a reader as a product of war hysteria. Any such impression would be quickly dissipated by reading this book. It is not uncommon for convicted criminals, when it is possible to appeal against their sentence to the courts, to take their chance before the bar of public opinion, and it must be rare for one who has the help of a competent literary editor to make such a hopeless attempt.

According to the publisher's note on the cover, Baillie-Stewart, who ceased to protest his innocence, hoped that this book would remove the stigma he had incurred for more than thirty years. His purpose was to regain, at least, the notoriety he had lost in his heyday. He repeatedly repeats the name of how many famous people he met would be known if they had known that he was the famous 'Officer in the Tower'. He proudly adds, 'I will carry with me to my grave the name, and the fame, of notoriety, too young to die at the age of twenty-one in January, 1933.' The book, before his court-martial, was published in that romantic

spot, and the exciting but wholly fictitious sexual stories with which he decorated his defence, ensured a really splendid press. As an officer in the Seaforth Highlanders he was charged with selling military information to the German Ministry of Defence for a total remuneration of £90. He claimed, with a wealth of picturesque detail, that the money was for sexual services rendered to a German girl called Marie-Louise, the code name used by his control. It was not a well-concocted story, and he denied it after his conviction, which carried a sentence of five years' imprisonment. In his book he takes little trouble to conceal the fact that he deliberately offered himself to German Military Intelligence on a visit to Berlin in 1932, had two more contacts in Holland with his control and continued to hand over information until he was arrested; though he inserts rather perfunctorily the usual ritual protestation that he passed on nothing that the Germans could not have found out for themselves.

After serving his sentence he emigrated in 1937 to Vienna and applied for Austrian citizenship. In August, 1939, he took a job broadcasting over Berlin radio which allows him to claim, with the pride of one who collects titles of dishonour, that he was 'the first Lord Haw-Haw'. He excuses himself for this, and some subsequent rather ineffective work for the German Foreign Office, by claiming that since his earlier application for Austrian citizenship, overtaken by the Anschluss, he thought he really ought to be a German citizen before long, but this aspiration was only brought to completion in July, 1940, when he was finally naturalized. It was this lapse of time which was to result in his appearing at the Old Bailey after

the war. The authorities dropped the charges of treason, somewhat contemptuously, but proceeded with charges of aiding the enemy, contrary to the Emergency Defence Regulations, by broadcasting over Berlin radio at a time when still a British subject. He pleaded guilty, sensibly enough, though he claims that it was the result of a corrupt bargain. A further term of five years' imprisonment followed. When he had served it he emigrated to Ireland and died in Dublin last year at the age of fifty-seven.

It is possible for the story of a worthless life to be itself a document of value, but in this case the opportunity has been missed. There is not even much basis for a psychological study. The note on the cover claims that Baillie-Stewart was essentially a man who resented authority, and it may perhaps be significant that, on leaving Sandhurst, he abandoned his father's surname. Certainly he behaved very badly to his senior officers during his brief spell as a regular subaltern; on the other hand, when in prison he informed on his fellow prisoners. The reason he gives for offering his services to Germany is that on his father's side he was a German, but the connexion was, in fact, extremely remote—one German great-grandmother. It is not necessary to assume an ideological attraction to Nazism, since his first treachery was in 1932. He greatly disliked William Joyce, which would be to his credit if he had not made it plain that his reasons were partly class-jealousy, partly jealousy of a more incisive pagandist, in fact he gives no sensible motivation for any of his actions. Vanity and stupidity are conspicuous throughout the book; they deprive it of much of the value it would otherwise have as a document of a troubled life.

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custom of "going to the sea" as he rightly observes, Victorian origin, and most of the best (other than natural ones) to be there are of Victorian date. They are wearing out or being worn down to make way for motor camps or caravan-parks. They need for Enterprise Neptune, and this, so far, has been more costly with the undeveloped portions of the coast than with that which has been

**John Murray**

sonal writings is taken to include whatever of Hardy's was not fiction or poetry—the prefaces to his own books and the books of other writers, his occasional essays on literary subjects, and his personal reminiscences. These writings are not in themselves very interesting—one cannot imagine anyone either publishing or reading them if Hardy's name were not attached—but as the opinions of their author they are of considerable importance.

The strongest impression that the book makes is of Hardy's extreme provincialism: he was, one might say,

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It would be an over-statement to call Mr. Lindley a back-slap man; his sympathies are widely spread, and he is anxious to embrace anything that is in its kind, such as the Blackpool and Balroom, and the family that resort. What he stresses, however, and only too truly, is the fact that the majority of recent years little or nothing has been built (save for the atomic power stations) that is the least degree to the amelioration of our coastline. "It is impossible," he writes, "of what can be done if a suitable site is chosen (Wilthensna? ) were to be chosen developed imaginatively on the basis of the earlier resort."

Of the future, Mr. Lindley's prospect is an alluring one if the appropriate embellishment of a new place might be a statue to Bradon's secretive Lady A. who (though the place is "Wilthensna" in the books) snaffled the first of her unfortunate husbands.







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## ONLY DISCONNECT

THERE ARE SUBJECTS such as religion, sex, adoption, abortion, contraception, flogging, the death penalty, which can never come under discussion without arousing so much emotion that rational argument becomes obscured, if not totally banished. Whenever one of these topics is being currently reviewed in the press, articles and letters, each more heated than the last, succeed each other; and this is possible because the problems concerned with these subjects are not susceptible to single, conclusive solutions, and are likely to touch some of us where we are most vulnerable—in our irrational beliefs and uncertainties. Of course one can become emotionally involved in any argument; but where it is a more confined one, as, for instance, the relative virtues of margarine and butter, the pill or the coil, big ends or little ends, there is more real objectivity; or rather, subjective attitudes are more often recognized for what they are, less often paraded as the direct opposite. When we discuss what we prefer to eat on our bread, we recognize that this is a matter of taste; given that we are in favour of contraception, we shall compare the pill and the coil in the light of their efficacy and safety. It is where questions of morality come in that detachment quits the scene; it is in his attitude as moralist, a moralist or anti-moralist that each of us, apparently, and unexpectedly, is most deeply involved.

To the above list of emotive topics, that of drug taking can now be added, since in the past few years this has become an increasing social and moral problem. It is a social problem because, owing to the novelty of the widespread use of drugs in this country, we have not yet formulated a generally accepted attitude in society towards it; it is a moral problem not only because of the effect that "hard" drugs have on the addict, but also because the taking of any of the drugs in question is, in effect, an escape from reality, and the problem of how to come to terms with reality must be what morality is eventually about.

Four books published in the past twelve months approach this problem from different standpoints. Two are written or edited by Americans and are not primarily concerned with the impact on society of the use of addictive drugs, but rather with the effect of those drugs on individual users. *The Varieties of Psychedelic Experience* is a careful and conscientious survey of controlled experiments with volunteer patients, who were given LSD or psilocybin (mescaline) under supervision; their experiences are recorded, both the subjective by themselves and the objective by observers, and the uses and abuses of the two drugs are assessed. *The Book of Grass* is an anthology of writings which are either about the uses of marijuana and hashish, or are produced under the influence of one of these drugs; the editors are George Andrews and Simon Vinkenoog. The first of the two English books, *Turn Me On Man*, is a horror story; it tells the experiences of Alan Bestic during the time he spent in gathering material for this book on drug addiction by interviewing the young addicts in person. Lastly, *Penguin Special*, by another journalist, Peter Laurie, called simply *Drugs*. This is neither a technical book nor one written to make a special plea, but is a reasonably objective view of the British scene as it is today.

The drugs dealt with in these books are in five categories: the hypnotics, that is mainly the barbiturates, grass, or the weed, marijuana, and hashish; the stimulants, benzodrine derivatives, "pep" pills, "purple hearts", &c.; the hallucinogens, LSD and mescaline; and the "hard" drugs, heroin and cocaine. Alcohol is frequently mentioned, and is indeed a drug, and one to which many people become addicted, but

because as a society we have become tolerant of this addiction, and have therefore developed methods of ignoring or coping with it, this aspect of addiction is not treated as one of the main themes in any of these books. The problems with which the writers are concerned are: first, the problem of the treatment of the rapidly growing population of addicts in this country, a problem which must be solved in medical, social and legal terms; second, a specifically legal question, should the smoking of marijuana and hashish cease to be punishable by law in Britain? third, what value, if any, is there in the increased psychic awareness bestowed by some of these drugs on their users?

These are all questions which we should, urgently, be asking. The drug-using population of this country is known to have grown immensely in the past ten years; the number of known heroin addicts alone is estimated to double every nineteen months, and this is a continuing upward curve. In the light of this information, coupled with the evidence of the physically and morally destructive properties of heroin and cocaine, it may seem that there can be only one answer: that addiction to any drug should be discouraged by the strongest methods possible. This is the conclusion reached by Alan Bestic, who presses it home by giving a collection of real case histories, which read like a series of headlines from the daily press. Much of the book *Turn Me On Man* is told in dialogue form, or is the direct recording of the experiences of the drug takers as they answered Mr. Bestic's questions. The picture which emerges is sad, and terrifying. Most of the addicts are young adults or adolescents; some started taking drugs at fourteen or less. The number of cures is small, relapse almost the rule. The squalor and misery of many of the people interviewed would seem unbelievable if it were not confirmed at so many different hands. This is confessedly a biased book—Mr. Bestic is against the legalization of hemp, he is horrified by the stories he tells, and most of his readers will feel with him. He thinks our present attitude dangerously laissez-faire and unrealistic, and his forecast is that unless we open our eyes to the rate of increase in the number of addicts already in this country, and to the scale of illegal drug trafficking, we are going to have to face an even more disastrous situation in a very few years' time.

This is the simple answer, simply and emotionally put. But simple answers are not wholly adequate where the questions are complex, and though no one could fail to deplore the degradation which accompanies the taking of the "hard" drugs, not everyone will follow Mr. Bestic in the wholesale condemnation of all drugs on this account. The co-editors of *The Book of Grass* argue that the use of marijuana should be legalized in the west. Hemp is a non-addictive drug; many people smoke it at weekends only, many can leave off using it for months at a time without discomfort. Long use of the drug can be shown to have no deteriorating effects on either physical or psycho health. The book opens with a brief introduction to hemp, the legal position, relating to its use in the United States. The following five sections are composed of extracts from poems, essays, novels, stories, treatises, some writers writing about the drug, some writing under their influence. There are fragments from *Vedic Hymns*, from the Song of Solomon, from American Indian literature, from Rimbaud, Aldous Huxley, Hermann Hesse, Errol Flynn. The last three sections deal with the medical and legal questions, and with the possibilities for increasing consciousness. The final extract is a review of the present scene at Oxford, by Stephen Abrams, a balanced and sane piece of writing which does much to implement the editors' view that harm rather than good is done by the existing state of the law. They feel that the "adolescent who smokes hemp, and who recognizes that by so doing he has broken the law, is that much nearer to the use of the hard drugs.

on the principle of "in for a penny, in for a pound". He is also now susceptible to blackmail, which may take the form of a virtual compulsion to go over to the drugs, which carry a much greater potential profit for the pusher. Whether Mr. Andrews, and Mr. Vinkenoog prove their point each reader will have to decide for himself. Some may think that the extracts from works produced while the writer was "high" are not sufficiently outstanding to justify the use of the drug; others might argue that they were written in spite of the drugs, not because of them, and that these writers would have written in any case—a point which can never be proved, so both sides of the argument can be indefinitely prolonged. This is an interesting anthology, biased like the former book; unlikely to convert any reader to a point of view he did not previously hold, but containing enough controversial material to stimulate him to argument.

*The Varieties of Psychedelic Experience*—a title chosen presumably purposely to suggest a parallel with the book by William James—is a serious study of two drugs only, the hallucinogens. It does not deal with addiction. The authors, R. E. L. Masters and Jean Houston, are concerned with the uses of LSD and mescaline from a therapeutic point of view and not with the misuse of the drugs in society. They selected their own subjects with care, and gave the drugs under supervision, with specially trained "guides" who made it their business to direct each session towards the expansion of consciousness, and to ensure that this, and the alteration of spatial perception, did not endanger either the subject or his environment. The authors also obtained first-hand accounts of the experiences of more than 200 people who had taken the drugs under different circumstances. They conclude that these are substances which, if properly used, could become important both in the extension of our knowledge of the human mind and also in the treatment of individual disturbances. The former statement they substantiate in the chapters headed "Experiencing the Body and Body Image", "Experiencing Other Persons", "Psyche and Symbol", "Religious Experience".

It is clear from the remarkable accounts given under these headings that the hallucinogens offer methods of exploring regions of consciousness hitherto unknown to us. Technically this is interesting, and if the claim can also be validated that the drugs are of use therapeutically, in enabling alcoholics, psychopaths and some sexual deviants to reach memories buried too deep for ordinary recall, then Mr. Masters and Miss Houston have justified their conclusions. They are cautious, however, in their claims; they quote a statement from an article by Dr. Richard Blum on what he calls "the Utopias".

The emphasis [in advocating the use of the drug] is on the enhancement of inner experience and on the development of hidden personal resources. It is an optimistic doctrine, for it holds that there are power and greatness concealed within everyone. The authors are equally scrupulous in their assessment of the results of treatment for the disorders mentioned above. "Positive behavioural changes may ensue in time; but this usually requires that the subject keep working with the data of his session to further break down conditioned responses and preserve his ability to be open to... external stimuli." Here one must ask, too, what part is being played by the drug itself in the "cure"? Many psychopaths, alcoholics, and some sexual deviants show the characteristics of persons who have somehow failed in their relationships with others, the success of any treatment has always appeared to depend mainly on the bond established between the "patient" and the therapist: on mutual love, of a kind. Where a drug is administered under close and constant supervision, and especially where research is involved so that the personal interest of the therapist is concerned, this bond is apt to be a very close one; each needs the other, and this must be taken into account before the intrinsic curative properties of the drug are established.

Drugs gives a more balanced and complete coverage of the

subject than any of the other works reviewed above. It is an excellent short book, gives a concise account of all the drugs at present claiming addicts in Britain, details the psychology of the addict, his social attitude towards drugs, the uses of the drugs, the legal and medical. There are a few cases told in less dramatic terms than those employed by Mr. Bestic, but the problem is primarily a social one; it is tempting to quote one of his concluding chapters, "The Problem of the Rebellious Adolescent", which has always been a problem for the parents, and for themselves, that will still look out enough to force their children to accept and fight. For the moment drugs, particularly the soft drugs... do the trick nicely.

And again: We should be humble enough to consider drug use one of the freedoms we enjoy in our society. ... We ought to consider the idea that in the (society) man finds himself, his behaviour, his life for his good than not. We should not be so sure that we can do this. We should be young whom we must punish. We can best do this is by suggesting, not by a more rigid code, nor by tighter medical control, nor even by the discovery of new methods of cure. The problem of addiction is one of personality, availability. The closing sentence, Mr. Laurie's book indicates the questions raised in all four books.

Almost without exception, the books quoted here of people who became able to live without drugs of one or another kind, show that the causes of this situation lie in their personalities and not in the drug. Dependence is a symptom and not a disease.

Increased numbers of undergraduates. In the face of such pressures within each university, the library has often become a Cinderella.

The problem is, then, partly an administrative one. Within universities the university librarian is repeatedly at a disadvantage in competing for funds to buy books and periodicals for use by members of the various faculties, when he finds that the heads of these same faculties are fighting for the same funds to use them for non-library purposes, such as new research projects or additional teaching staff. These heads of faculties, for their part, while regarding new research projects or additional teaching staff in their own subjects as falling within their proper field of responsibility, are often inclined to shrug off the provision of books for students in their own subjects as being outside their field of responsibility. The Parry report, therefore, will be invaluable as a reminder to university administrators of the need to take special steps to see that the claims of libraries are adequately heeded in the future allocation of funds.

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## LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

LONDON PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE

Thursday June 15 1967

CENTRAL 2000

## THE PARRY REPORT

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How, then, can the finances of the university libraries be improved? It is not funds for the U.G.C. to channel direct to library purposes, since, except for some special grants earmarked for the development of particular branches of study (grants which sometimes are not very welcome to the recipient universities, which would prefer to use the same money for other purposes), the funds available to universities by the U.G.C. are normally "block grants" which the universities are free to spend up and use according to their judgement of their own needs. It is well that it should be so, for the sake of the preservation of academic freedom and university independence. What the Parry report is in fact doing, therefore, is to point out that the universities are under increasing pressures which arise within the U.G.C. "block grants, the libraries are being increasingly allowed to go to the wall. The pressures that have been in recent years have included, in particular, the constant demands of departments for more expensive research staffs and equipment, the need to provide for growing numbers of postgraduate students, and, since the Robbins report of 1963, the urgent requirement for

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The bookseller faced with a request for a book is under an obligation, providing he can get it for his customer, to do so. If he cannot get it then he has to suggest that the customer writes to a bookseller in the particular country where the book is published and asks that bookseller to send him the edition he requires. This often happens with anthologies not published in Britain of which a particular article or story has not been cleared for world rights by the original publisher. This applies not only to poetry, but also to philosophy, and art, and science. One can sympathize with the customer who requires such literature and cannot get it in a British edition, but the bookseller cannot legally import either the different selection or the complete poems, neither of which are available in this country. He wants to help his customer so he suggests he writes to, say, a Paris bookseller who can import all English editions without discrimination. I also have to do this if I want a particular edition not published in this country for my own library. And if I want an English poet in translation I also have to go to that country for the book. All this is not unreasonable but it is not easy, and it does often frustrate the student and lecturer in search of particular editions, and is particularly difficult for collectors of modern American literature.

A recent problem has been the increased reprinting in America of British books long out of print without the permission of the British publisher. These books are often wanted over here for study but cannot legally be imported. A more frustrated American publisher would perhaps have taken some trouble to clear them with the British publisher, as his sales would surely warrant this action, but many of these editions are only reprinted in very small editions, often at a very high price, for immediate sale within the United States. Here again the British publisher is frustrated, rightly, in his efforts to help his customers.

No one would dispute the legal right of Mr. John Calder to protect his own interests, but the bookseller is often placed in a dilemma when he takes into consideration the whole social, legal, and moral context of his actions which themselves take place in an area where ignorance is real and knowledge hard to come by.

PETER STOCKHAM.  
57 Barnham Avenue, Epsom, Surrey, Middlesex.

differ from mine. I have not any personal stake in these events, which might have tempted my memory unconsciously to play me false; and I feel sure that my memory of who was and was not present at the interview, and of what Hitler and I did and did not say to each other is correct, and that, on these points, Dr. Berber's memory is wrong in so far as it disagrees with mine.

On the other hand, I was not, of course, present on the occasion, before my arrival in Berlin, on which Hitler had been shown an uncompromising reference to him, apropos of his liquidation of the S.A., that had been made by me in the *Chatham House Survey of International Affairs for 1934*. This was the occasion on which it had been explained to Hitler that this volume had been published after I had received, through Dr. Berber, an invitation to give a lecture in Berlin for the "Academy of German Law", and on which Hitler had made the comment that he did make and had given the instructions for me to be brought to see him when I came. I had this information from Dr. Berber and I had thought till now that he was giving me an account of an interview that he himself had had with Hitler. He has now told me that it was not he that had this interview with Hitler, but Ribbentrop. As I had no direct knowledge of this, whilst Dr. Berber has, I think that his memory is more likely than mine to be right on this point.

Dr. Berber has also told me now that he was at no time entitled to ask Hitler to grant him a personal interview, and indeed saw Hitler for the first time in his life when he was invited together with me, being then not even a simple member of the Nazi Party; that he was not Ribbentrop's draftsman for writing his speeches; and that he was not the only member of the teaching staff of the Hochschule für Politik who was not dismissed by the Nazis. I do not contest what Dr. Berber has now told me on these points. He has presented to me sufficient evidence to convince me that I must have been misinformed on these points, which I had mentioned only incidentally. They are of no personal importance to me, beyond my wish to state the facts correctly, but obviously it is of personal importance to Dr. Berber if I have mistakenly reported him as being in a more intimate relation than he really was with some of the leading personalities in the Nazi regime. I therefore want to put it on record, publicly, that, on these points, I accept Dr. Berber's account as against my own memory. It is very strange if I have over-estimated the importance of Dr. Berber's role during the Nazi regime.

I should like to repeat what I have already stated in my book and in my Munich broadcast: that, in my belief, the judgments which Dr. Berber passed, in his talks with me at the time, on Hitler and National Socialism, represented his real views and feelings, and that they were identical with mine, and that my judgments were, of course, radically antagonistic to Hitler and National Socialism, for which I had the strongest moral detestation.

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Sir,—There is no doubt about Mr. John Calder's rights in the law of copyright, and no good bookseller would knowingly wish to infringe these rights, but perhaps I can make a few remarks on the bookseller, the book and the book buyer.

A publisher normally acquires the rights to an author's works, and the rights to specific works, and, particularly in the past few years, the rights to the paperback edition as well as to the cloth edition. At the same time, the publisher has to give the bookseller the right to sell the book, and the bookseller does not know, and often cannot check, all the rights concerned with a particular, and sometimes unpublished, work. The chief protection to the British publisher in not having his books, the rights of which he has bought, flooding on to the British market, is to ensure that the overseas publisher does not send the book contrary to his agreement to the British bookseller. Often the British bookseller orders a book not published in Britain, but reviewed in *Times*; he receives the book from the publisher abroad, places it on sale, and then discovers a few weeks later that he is being offered the book in a British edition at a lower price, and both he and his customer are naturally very annoyed. The effort of getting a return to the foreign publisher is expensive both in money and time. There is no full and complete listing of forthcoming British books, and until there is this problem will continue to arise, and will probably be entirely solved by such a list. Often the customer asks the British bookseller for a named foreign edition, and the British bookseller, not knowing the book, orders the named edition, and he often receives it; this in spite of there being no British rights in that edition. He is in a dilemma, and he often receives for rights, there is an obvious lack of liaison between the rights departments of many American publishers and their trade counterparts; this is also true of other non-European countries.

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PAUL CLAUDEL: *La Ville*. Edited by Jacques Petit. 438pp. Paris: Mercure de France. 39.10 fr.

The earlier plays of Paul Claudel have received less attention than they merit, and they have very rarely been performed. This is not surprising since they constitute a dialectic of ideas rather than a drama of passion or psychological analysis. Nevertheless, they foreshadow, and in some respects even surpass, the plays of the poet's maturity. If drama depends on conflict, the struggle is here in Claudel's own wrestle with God or, as in *La Ville*, feeling his way towards a difficult submission. M. Jacques Petit, in an exemplary work of scholarship, compares the two versions of *La Ville*, with careful reference to the original MSS. and illustrates their biographical as well as their literary importance. The task was well worth undertaking.

Claudel was incurably addicted to revision, not always with fortunate results. He was a poet inhabited by certain themes to which he felt obliged to return at different stages of his development. Yet to speak of development does less than justice to the immobility at which he quickly arrived. His thought was inspired by two capital events—his discovery of Rimbaud in 1895 and his conversion to Catholicism in 1896. By the time he had completed the second version of *La Ville* the conversion was complete. The "city" is no longer specified as Paris; it has no particular locality. The conflicting ideas of anarchy and order, of dissatisfaction and the acceptance of dissatisfaction as the corollary to religious belief, are now resolved. The first version of *La Ville* is still a political play in so far as it is a play at all; the second is a religious mystery with political overtones. In the one Claudel is still tempted by the anarchism which is so eloquent in *Tête d'or*; in the other he is ready to quote his own brutal formula—"avec tous les Jupiters contre tous les Prométhées". We have seen the city in being and destroyed; we have listened to the plans for its Utopian reconstruction; and neither the anarchist whose genius is to destroy nor the architect whose genius is to build is satisfied with his work. Only the poet who is now the prophet, successively, both of anarchy and of order, have the recipes to cure or to ameliorate the human condition. In the last words of the play (his son, who has accepted the politics of the one and the faith of the other, gets down to work.

Pour nous, nous établissons le second version than in the first, probably because it is the product of a mind made up. Writing from his consular post in China, Claudel is viewing the city at a considerable remove from Mallarmé's salon and the *trois-trois* which had provoked in him so deep a melancholy. We have no record of the political influences under which he may have fallen in these early years, except for a passing sympathy for anarchism articulated here by the character of Avare. But there is a good deal of Péguy, and even more of Maurras, in the blueprints for the Harmonious City set out by the protagonist of *La Ville*.

In the end there is a rejection both of nostalgia and futurism; a concentration on the present, an acceptance of what is, as "la superficie de l'éternité permanente". To some this will sound an intolerable complacency; to the poet-priest Coevre—who is undisguisedly the poet Claudel already dreaming of sacrificing poetry for the priesthood—it seems the purest realism. But the sacrifice, when it was offered, was not accepted, and that will be the moment for Lala—the pythonesse prophet of *La Ville*—to make her appearance in the drama, and in the biography of Paul Claudel.

As an essay in theatre, however untheatrical, *La Ville* throws a passing glance to Maeterlinck, and it also looks forward to the expressionist drama of twenty years later. The characters are more important for what they represent than for what they are—and they represent the different facets of the dramatist. The aesthetic judgment of Claudel may always be called in question, but the power and richness of his temperament are incontestable. Both are here translated into language of extraordinary splendour. The *verset* responding, as it seems, to the natural thought and feeling of the poet, still carries its biblical and Virgilian echoes, but less noticeably in the second version than in the first. M. Petit, whose judgment is equal to his erudition, compares the barbaric incoherence of the one with the smooth accomplishment of the other; but he suggests that there is loss as well as gain in this mastery of material, and that in some respects vitality has been sacrificed to exposition. Neither of the two plays is a masterpiece, but each has its place in the repertoire of symbolism; and it is a rewarding exercise to study them side by side in the light of so thorough-going an exegesis.

## "THE ARCHETYPAL EXPERIENCE"

of our time" is the experience of the refugee, says Martin Esslin, praising Peter Weiss's *Leviathan* and *Marat/Sade* as "one of the great passages of contemporary literature." These two moving autobiographical novels by the author of *The Marat/Sade* not only reveal the odyssey of a refugee from the Nazis, but the events and sufferings that go into the making of an artist. His plays *The Marat/Sade* (hardcover 30s., paperback 12s. 6d.) and *The Investigation* (35s.) are also available. Differently annotated by G. L. O'Connell (65s.) a massive Jewish/American novel of contemporary America, one of the most unusual and varied experiences in recent writing. No tentative reviews for this giant of a novel. Unquestionably a very important novel indeed. —The Spectator. "One of the great, if not the greatest, literary achievements of our time." —Cork Examiner. "Many reviewers agree, while others dismiss it as pretentious or too difficult. We think that this important American novel, overflowing with life, will give serious readers a memorable experience."

## DYNAMIC FRUSTRATION

is the hallmark of David Mercer's plays, whether he is writing about emotional failure, schizophrenia, the reality of human relationships or political commitment. *The Porch* (30s.) is a new volume of 12 plays that includes the controversial *In Two Minds* and shows the new development of his handling of the writer. Also recently published, *His Bachelor's Luck* (hardcover 25s., paperback 12s. 6d.), Marguerite Duras's *Three Plays* (hardcover 30s., paperback 15s.) contains *The Squid*, *Days in the Trees* and *The Victims*.

## ROBERT CREELEY'S

strange, atmospheric short stories *The Gold Diggers* (15s.) are now in Caliber books, along with his novel *The Island* (15s.). Robert Pugh's important early novel *Malin* (24s.) is now available in English, a complete masterpiece by an under-estimated writer, written before *The Industrial* (42s.), the first Pugh novel which gives important insight into the nature of truth.

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MICHEL LEIRIS: *La Règle du jeu*. Vol. III: *Fibrilles*. 292pp. Paris: Gallimard, 16fr.

Now that *Fibrilles* has been added to *Rifflures* (1948) and *Fourbis* (1955), Michel Leiris's patient and profound essay in autobiography, *La Règle du jeu*, is complete. He had intended to write a fourth volume, *Fibules*, which was to tie everything together in a supreme act of reconciliation between the middle of his life and the mythical patterns of his books, but he now seems to have achieved this reconciliation where it matters more, in the world of action as opposed to that of imagination. It is in fact the subtle traffic between these two tragically divided worlds which provides the substance of *La Règle du jeu*, and M. Leiris's own honesty and intelligence in recording it which makes all three volumes so sympathetic and original.

The repeated *je* and *tu* of his chosen titles are a first indication that he sees the chronology of a life as of much less interest than its associations. Chronology is logical, anonymous and an unpleasant reminder of mortality. M. Leiris rejects it outright, choosing instead to re-create certain aspects of his past by the simple association of words or ideas. During the 1930s he was for some years an accredited Surrealist and for some months the patient of a psychoanalyst, and his autobiography owes everything to these two experiences, because it is a prolonged exercise in auto-analysis, intended not only to inform the reader but also to help the writer, who has always suffered from a profound sense of inadequacy as a human being.

M. Leiris begins, therefore, not with the formation of his limbs but with that of his language, and in *Rifflures* he recalls certain crucial episodes of his early childhood, when he first became aware that his own language was also partly that of other people. The key word here is "partly", because he has never been foolish enough to put away these childish things and suppose that any two people use precisely the same language. *La Règle du jeu* recognizes above all that all words face both inwards and outwards, and that certain words crackle with an emotional charge which is an irresistible invitation to self-examination for the person feeling it. From one point of view these books constitute a dictionary of

such privileged words, arranged not alphabetically but affectively, as M. Leiris works to reveal to himself and to others the associations which they have suddenly or gradually acquired for him. It is inevitable that a large part of his research should lead him back to his childhood, and the years before words and things were wholly one.

This method of trying to establish order in one's past is both simple and ambitious, simple because it is bound to be partly involuntary and ambitious because it seeks to grasp life temporarily, in a single block. M. Leiris first turned to autobiography in his middle thirties, when he wrote *L'Age d'homme*, having reached that unwanted vantage-point from which the future is suddenly seen to be shorter than the past, and the whole of *La Règle du jeu* is openly dominated by the consciousness of death, that horror of annihilation which M. Leiris sees as having prevented him from ever committing himself wholeheartedly to life in the body. He has a correspondingly deep dislike of all those who are able to forget about death, but weakens his case by treating his own rigorously negative view as an absolute one, instead of trying to incorporate it into his personal mythology. In the end one is led to wonder whether it is not his crippling timidity which underlies the hypothesis of annihilation rather than the other way round. In either case the result has been to lead him to demand from literature satisfactions he would have preferred to meet with in life.

In an influential essay called "De la littérature considérée comme une taurinomie" published soon after a war which made very few demands on his courage, M. Leiris stressed that writing would be pointless so far as he was concerned if it did not involve him in taking risks. What he wanted, he was able to do to see the sheet of paper as a bull-ring and himself as a matador, performing the ritual gestures of his trade. The obvious difficulty is to find a suitable pair of horns over which a sedentary writer can bend with the illusion of danger, and the solution once again was supplied by language, by the phrase "the moment of truth", used of that in-

stant of time when it is now possible to judge how fully the bull-leader has prepared to commit himself to the wants to pursue "moments of truth" in public can only hope to be by overcoming the normal inhibitions of autobiography, and this is what Michel Leiris has done. The risks which he takes in *La Règle du jeu* are those of self-revelation, but he is taken in full knowledge of what these are acrobatics performed as a safety-net. To say that the three volumes are completely free of anything that in them M. Leiris says of himself and nothing, about certain aspects of his life, notably his sexual life, is very ironic, what he has achieved is an unheroic honesty which never once topples over into abasement and never once asks our pity as opposed to our contempt.

But it is clear that the risks he has prepared to take in print could not finally have reconciled M. Leiris to the intimate hesitations which he has marked his life. When he set out *La Règle du jeu*, during the German occupation of France, it was with the conviction that someone he could find the philosopher's stone which would enable him to escape sense of his life, but the quiet organization he managed to set up again to impose on it remained, bornly imprisoned in his winged, cast no golden glow over his life. The two divergent tendencies of his nature refused to be brought together.

In *Fibrilles* these tendencies embodied for the last time, as M. Leiris calls his "Man-side" his "Kumasi-side", the first is a sense of community and positive action, the second for withdrawal into the self and for isolation. Yet just when things seem darkest at last takes the risk which was poetry into his life, having spent long trying to turn life into a book. The risk was an attempt at suicide and the scar left in his throat by tracheotomy which saved his life, now Michel Leiris's *fin de siècle* could be nothing better than the of a book.

## GUIDES TO GIDE

ANDRÉ GIDE, ANDRÉ ROUYEYRE: *Correspondence, 1909-1951*. Edited by Claude Martin. 283pp. Paris: Mercure de France. 26.75fr.

VINIO ROSSI: *André Gide: The Evolution of an Aesthetic*. 198pp. Rutgers University Press (Translation Book Service). £3.

ANDRÉ GIDE: *Journals, 1889-1949*. Translated, selected and edited by Justin O'Brien. 797pp. Penguin.

It is not known when the first meeting took place between Gide and Rouveyre, but their correspondence began in 1909 and continued intermittently until a few weeks before the former's death. M. Claude Martin has collected together a total of 136 letters, which are almost equally divided between the two correspondents as regards number while the greater length of Rouveyre's contributions is balanced by the superior literary quality of Gide's. A hitherto unpublished and venomous article by Rouveyre, entitled "André Gide ou la Cétoine" and written shortly after his subject's death, forms an appendix to the volume, which is completed by the excellent introduction and notes of its scholarly editor.

The most important section of the correspondence concerns a series of articles on Gide which Rouveyre wrote for the *Nouvelles Littéraires* in 1924 and republished in 1927, along with his study of Gide, under the title *La Recluse et le retour*. Gide does not seem to have minded the epithet *reclus*, but he was hurt by Rouveyre's attacks on some of his friends, notably Paul Valéry. Many of the letters exchanged during this period of controversy were published at the time or shortly after by one or both correspondents, often in mutilated form. Thanks to this volume we can now read most of them in their original state.

The arrangement, resulting from this literary quarrel, which had indirectly followed a brief period of close friendship, meant that the correspondence only achieved frequency again in the last years of Gide's life. Rouveyre wanted to publish the letters while they were both still living, but Gide could not or would not agree. Both painstakingly stressed the everlasting

cordinality of their relations, but this does not conceal Rouveyre's growing annoyance with Gide's refusal and deflections nor Gide's with Rouveyre's unnecessary persistence.

Unfortunately, even in these important periods as the editor admits and Gide himself realized, the correspondence often becomes tedious. M. Martin suggests that it should be read for its psychological interest, as the history of a friendship. However, the self-centred Rouveyre, continually stressing his own unique ability to understand and guide his eminent contemporary, hardly emerges as a worthy confidant. Indeed, the most remarkable feature of the letters is the composure and sympathetic concern displayed by Gide when dealing with someone he was at times forced to consider "comme un malade et presque comme un irresponsable".

The reader of Dr. Rossi's study of Gide's neglected early fiction and critical writings may find similar concerns. Aroused by the introduction's picture of acute psychological withdrawal leading its victim to fulfillment through art, Dr. Rossi develops Gide's ensuing struggle with that basis of literary composition, the metaphor, and describes its resolution in the swamp of *Paludes*, the author's first "modern parable".

Stylistic awkwardness and tortuous argument, introducing analogies in order to prove their inappropriateness, do nothing to relieve the exaggerated seriousness of the approach. Dr. Rossi is so convinced of the importance of *Paludes* as Gide's first masterpiece that he fails to see how its amusing satire may extend beyond pure content to the very metaphorical form he looks upon, as the height of literary achievement. He would be better advised to pursue

his interesting suggestions concerning the relationship of Gide's work to his reading of Leibniz than to his on to his promised study of the works.

Many people regard the *Journals* as Gide's finest work in view of the intricate portrait they present of the author. About half that portrait has been cut away in the present selection from Justin O'Brien's definitive translation, and just as missing traits deserve deletion of stated principle of mere logic. Meanwhile, the removal of grossly erroneous biographical data supplied by the publishers at the front of the volume would constitute a desirable instance of further mutilation.

## RUSSIAN POLES

GEORGE STEINER: *Tolstoy et le oevre*. 332pp. Penguin. 16s.

It is not easy to make an original contribution to the vast pile of critical criticism of Tolstoy and Dostoevsky. Mr. Steiner succeeds by showing a clue, from Berdyayev, who sees them as representatives of "two types among men's souls"—a duality which can be expressed in two ways. They were the two poles of a colossal phenomenon in Russian history, as if Homer and Shakespeare had been contemporaries writing in the same language. The contrast between them can also be seen in the vision of the two men, the contrast between the rationalist and the visionary; or again, in terms of Russian history, as the conflict between the Westerner and the Slavophile, or between the cultural traditions of St. Petersburg and Moscow. Mr. Steiner explores the complex genius of the two men with great facility and subtlety, in a book (already published in hardcover) (1960) which amply deserves recognition as a paperback.

## This Business of Management

## LEADERS AND MISLEADERS

HUMAN SOCIETIES have always had elites, leaders. No trace of a naturally egalitarian, communist and cooperative society has ever been found. Even in man-made egalitarian societies—as in some religious communities like the early Christians, or monasteries, or some sects in modern America, and only when it shielded within a larger society—there has had to be hierarchy, privilege, social and economic discrimination, oligarchy or arbitrary rule. Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age makers of weapons and tools (both are capital goods) enjoyed high social status, substantial possessions, and dwellings of honour. They were the first "capitalists", and Benjamin Franklin called man "a looking animal".

Like Konrad Lorenz's wolves and other predators, men have always been organized under a minority of leaders guiding, deliberately or traditionally, the great majority of the led. They have always had a pecking order; and when one leader or set of leaders has been overthrown, the overthrown have set up a new order, almost always their own. And that is why societies abruptly depriving themselves of traditional elites, even when overthrowing hated leaders, undergo long convulsions. Virtually all Africa, most of Asia, much of America, and much of Europe (especially Britain) for various reasons and in differing degrees are having them now.

One cause of the spasms convulsing British society—and other advanced industrial societies including the American and Russian—since war ended a generation ago has not yet been properly studied. It arises from the swiftly accelerating new demands of technology upon older systems of both public and private administration, or management, or business leadership. Britain's social convulsions arising from inadequate politico-economic leadership in government central and local, in all the public services, in trade unions, pri-

vate business managements and all kinds of "admin." of human beings) have been, and still are, more acute than those of her western friends. They seem to be as endogenous, built-in, and enduringly serious as those of the Russians and their European allies who are also convulsively trying to respond to technological challenges hurled at minority elites who govern, administer and manage "the new masses".

The systems of leadership in advanced, industrial, western nations are the oldest, most ingrained, longest established. The first industrial revolution (man-made energy behind communications, tools and elbows) first occurred in Britain and swiftly spread to the others. The second industrial revolution (replacement of much traditional human knowledge, memory, skill, calculation, communications and controls by self-regulating automata) was also made by Europeans and North Americans but is occurring in advanced countries while the first revolution is simultaneously occurring in what we rather self-consciously call "the developing countries". We in the west, including Russians and Americans, consequently undergo the effects of both revolutions at once: old and new, developed and developing. Older, more stable, more established, more traditional socially and economically and politically, and administratively more arthritic Britain is tugged all ways at once. Contempt for law and order, security of the person and private property, or public and private honesty; the tug between generations; problems of business management and public administration; the tug between old and new privileged classes (trade unionists are now well-nigh above the law itself); the tug between public and private educational systems; even the sex war—all these ugly heads are reared more disturbingly in modern British society than in almost any other in the west. And

all because our society has not found, and cannot yet find, appropriate new men and methods to manage human beings: cannot develop proper leaders and leadership. Misdemeanors on all sides, the lengths to which misleadership has gone in all the ways of our public and private life, obviously and deeply trouble our society in its groupings, and many of our minority of thinking citizens.

Societies always go through self-examination and convulsions when economic problems become serious and enduring. One cannot help being struck, therefore, by the swelling torrent of books in Britain on organization and methods ("O. & M."), work study, research and development ("R. & D."), marketing, personnel management, industrial relations, new "communications" (between leaders and led), and so on—accompanying the swelling number of public and private institutions devoted to management and business studies, and similar departments at our multiplying universities, colleges of advanced technology, and municipal and other technical (or post-secondary and evening study) colleges. Comment grows in the British press, over the air and on television about "the needs of management" and of public "admin." to get with it and to do this, that or the other to improve our national economy, accelerate "growth", defray our faster-expanding public expenditure at home and abroad, and raise the material standards of living of the majority of our people (not forgetting the elderly and retired and the children of a poor minority) while reducing weekly hours of work of those gainfully employed.

It is a tall order to the small minority of leaders in our public and private business: especially as, simultaneously, this elite is also producing most of the taxes to run our public sector which accounts this year for 40 per cent of the national income.

Our business and administrative elite—the tiny world of executive leaders numbering half a million out of 26 million in gainful employment—are now more heavily and progressively taxed than the corresponding groups in the leading western nations (or Russia). Our society in strictly economic terms is more egalitarian, more "statised", than others in the west. Most public commentators, however, speak and write of the problem of management as though management meant the leadership of private enterprises alone. But these do not even account for half of the national income. Sole traders, sole professional men, and partners or farmers employing nobody, account for 7 per cent, and "the public sector" accounts for 45 to 50 per cent of it. There are more extensive and more expensive problems of management in central and local government, in our educational and health institutions, in our other state or local public services, and in all our nationalized industries, than in that portion of the private sector composed of concerns employing, beside their salaried owners or profit-making partners as leaders, a few or a lot of full-time paid workers. Why is the public sector so ignored in our institutions studying, and in our literature and comment on, the problems of leadership in the management of human beings and the costly capital they use? After all, it is half the nation's business in one sense, and (in a so-called democracy) should be every citizen's business in another.

The list of books on such problems on pages 541 and 542 prompts other reflections. It is a list only of those books, now overwhelmingly (and encouragingly) of British provenance, which are judged worth the notice of readers of the *T.L.S.* Yet it is only one-third of the books on strictly management subjects published in this country in the eighteen months since the last of such lists appeared (October 21, 1965). That

is a sobering reflection. So is consideration of the number of public and private institutions at which courses in business or management subjects are now taught, and the pace at which it grows. Like the universities, CATs, and technical colleges which form the overwhelming majority of such institutions, others have multiplied and expanded so much and so recently that "dilution of talent" in teaching, and inadequate curricula, have often resulted. Private institutions (apart from universities) teaching such subjects—like the British Institute of Management, the Administrative Staff College at Henley, the handful of training centres run by leading firms of management consultants, and the staff or management training establishments set up and run by the few very big British concerns who have hitherto been able to afford to do so—have been better organized and staffed to handle specific management subjects and problems. On the broader front of public instruction in management training (at the generalized, preparatory pre-graduate level, and outside the universities and CATs)—which means in municipal evening classes, technical colleges, etc. (and even in a few universities and CATs)—the curricula, standards of instruction, depths of study, and experience of the staff are manifestly inadequate because of over-ambitious or over-rapid establishment or expansion of facilities, and consequent dilution of teaching talent.

What seems urgently needed is a streamlining, slimming, concentrating of our nation-wide, but uncoordinated or disarticulated, effort in management education. There are, as everywhere and always in Britain, coordinating and advisory committees. But to get the punch, impact and enthusiasm so obviously needed in this big effort, spread over so many disparate institutions at such widely differing levels of experience and performance, something more urgent

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Autumn 42s



Longmans







JEREMY R. AZRAEL: *Managerial Power and Soviet Politics*. 260pp. Harvard University Press. London: Oxford University Press. £2.

A major problem confronting the victorious Bolshevik revolution in Russia was to find qualified personnel for the technical operation of industry and for the management of the economy. Lenin, in *State and Revolution*, written in the summer of 1917, the most Utopian of all his mature writings—had been content to contemplate managers working under the control, reduced to simple measures of record and accounting, of faithful party workers, and technical staffs of ministries replaced by "commissions of specialists" under similar supervision. In an article a few weeks later entitled *Will the Bolsheviks Retain State Power?*, designed to refute the insinuation that the Bolsheviks were not serious contestants for power, Lenin took a somewhat more realistic view of the need to recruit trained technicians and of the danger of sabotage, passive if not active. But on the eve of the revolution such obstacles were easily brushed aside. The acquisition of power was the immediate and absorbing preoccupation.

What emerged after the revolution partly reflected these pre-revolutionary speculations. After a turbulent interlude in which factory owners and managers and engineers were driven out with ignominy (or, in some cases, themselves walked out), and workers seized the factories—the period so-called "workers' control" in industry, corresponding to the seizure of the land by the peasants—the need both for expert management and for technical know-how became apparent. The salvaging and revival of industry were imperative tasks that could not be denied. Just as Trotsky built up the Red Army by using cadres of former Tsarist army officers, so Soviet industry brought back into service large numbers of those who, in one capacity or another, had been responsible for running Russian industry before the

revolution and were now indispensable for its survival. Nor did the parallel stop there. Political commissars were attached to the existing officer corps to ensure its loyalty and to supervise its work. Factories where bourgeois engineers and managers now laboured in the Soviet cause were commonly placed under the authority of a director who was a reliable party man and sometimes a former worker. The two categories were distinguished as "specialists" and "Red directors"; and for many years stories circulated, and were gleefully retailed in the émigré press, of absurd and impracticable orders issued to highly qualified technicians by ignorant Red directors.

Mr. Azrael has made what seems to be the first full-length attempt in English to trace the development of Soviet industrial management from these early beginnings to the present time, and in particular to determine what role it has played in Soviet politics and history. The material for such a study is scattered—much of it in the contemporary press; and Mr. Azrael has not tapped all of it by any means. Sometimes, especially in the post-Stalin epoch, he resorts to what appears to be unwarranted guesswork; and a lot of Kreninology covers a scarcity of factual evidence. Sometimes, especially in the earlier period, he skips too lightly over territory about which abundant evidence is available. In concentrating on relations between managers and the party, he has hardly anything to say about their relations with the workers and with the trade unions. He does not mention the organization of Engineers' and Technicians' sections of the trade unions (engaged by using cadres of former Tsarist army officers, so Soviet industry brought back into service large numbers of those who, in one capacity or another, had been responsible for running Russian industry before the

Engineers whose demise Mr. Azrael duly records. In short, while this book provides much valuable information, and is to some extent a pioneer effort in a neglected field, it leaves a good many gaps, and sometimes distorts the picture by the use of over-simplified definitions and categories. It is true that at the outset a clear distinction could be drawn between "specialists" of bourgeois origin and background taken over from the pre-revolutionary period, and "Red directors" promoted from the party ranks to positions of economic responsibility, and that the latter normally lacked the technical qualifications which the former possessed. But by the middle 1920s, with industry rapidly recovering and expanding, this distinction was already being eroded. When professional engineers in the party like Kravskii and Krzhizhanovskii, and promoted workers without education, and educated party officials without technical training, and former bourgeois specialists who had achieved party membership, could all be lumped together in common parlance as "Red directors", the term had lost any precise meaning, and no kind of homogeneous group corresponding to it could be said to exist.

The case of the "specialists" was no better. In the middle 1920s, when statistics of specialists were first drawn up and an attempt made to fix the condition of their remuneration (long a bone of contention with the trade unions), the only formal definition of a "specialist" was a man who was paid a "personal" salary and not covered by the standard wage-scales applicable to the ordinary factory worker. So far as occupation was concerned, he might be anything from a director or a manager to a skilled mechanic or technician. But

the situation was further complicated by the trial of the Shakhly engineers, together with some high economic officials, in 1928 on charges of sabotage. At this time, and for long after, the word "specialist" harked back to its origins, and was used emotionally to denote technical personnel of bourgeois origin, suspect of potentially suspect of disloyalty to the regime.

This being the case, some of the generalizations about the attitude of the specialists in which Mr. Azrael indulges are built on shifting sand, purely because we cannot be sure at any moment precisely to whom they relate, and partly because no coherent group emerges with interests of its own, or with the capacity and the organization to assert these interests, even if they existed. Speculations about the role of the specialists in the 1920s regarding the rate of industrialization are of this kind. Opinion among specialists, however defined, was split in the same way as opinion among party members—between the enthusiasts for all-out industrialization in the minimum of time and the cautious who found the rates now proposed unrealistic and unachievable and feared that they would lead to a fatal clash with the peasant. The notion, which Mr. Azrael rather tentatively entertains, of a managerial group exercising pressure on the party, or of Stalin doing a deal with such a group in order to force through his policies, belongs to a totally different world.

At a later stage of Soviet history, when managers and engineers were Soviet-trained, and the old bugbear of traditions and prejudices inherited from the days before the revolution had largely disappeared, the conception of a managerial group conscious of its interests and finding support

for them, say, in the leadership of Malenkov, becomes rather plausible. But this, too, presupposes a more homogeneous and organized group than appears to have existed. In the classic case of the Red Army, among western commentators, so little trace has ever been found of any military influence, by way of direction, influence or pressure, on the Soviet political scene. Whether because of the dominant role of the party, or for other reasons, Soviet politics simply do not work that way, and one suspects that the too, included, arises from too much eagerness to invoke rather crude logical concepts derived mainly from contemplation of American political life. It seems to make no sense to speak of "managerial power" in the face of military power as a decisive factor in Soviet politics.

In spite, however, of some lack of clarity in his analysis, Mr. Azrael has kept his head, and told us with a sensible conclusion that seems to correct some of his airy speculations.

At almost every step the reader has to bow to the dicta of the élite, and in most cases where this has proved somewhat recalcitrant, the resistance has ultimately been broken. Managerial power has been recognized and contained, and the high that it will remain very close to the party, and the party, high that this power will be used in the future, as it has in the past, for its functional, system-supporting goals.

Sociology is still in its infancy; one of its dangers—from which this book is not altogether exempt—is an excessively simplified use of concepts, including the concept of power.

**General Management**  
D. N. CHORASIS: *Managing Industrial Research for Profits*. 314pp. Cassell, 45s.  
Starting from technical advance and the dynamic economic theory, the author, an American consultant formerly teaching at various universities, takes us through the ramifications of research that arise from management's quest for profitability. The case studies are valuable, especially in the power struggle within the firm, and in research laboratory work. Costing of research projects is covered, and the work shows evidence of a practical mind.

**Human Relations and Supervisory Management**  
HENRY COMPTON and WILLIAM BENNETT: *Communication in Supervisory Management*. 120pp. Nelson's Studies in Supervisory Management, 17s. 6d.

The authors, respectively editor of the *Supervisor* and examiner in speech and drama at the Guildhall School, experts in communication by spoken and written word, have done well in guiding students through the mental processes of human communication in the use of aids and sources like libraries, meetings, memoranda-writing, speech-making, visual aids, and public relations.

**Management Principles and Practice**  
JOHN MURDO FRASER: *Principles and Practice of Supervisory Management*. 120pp. Nelson's Studies in Supervisory Management Series, 17s. 6d.

The editor of this series designed for students in courses for the national examinations in supervisory studies is Reader in the department of industrial administration at the University of Aston. Here, he sets out in subject chapters, with reading lists, the organization of businesses in the socio-legal framework. It is a clear, straightforward, succinct book.

**Case Studies**  
W. ALLAN GAY and DAVID CAMERON: *A Manager's Casebook*. 144pp. Heinemann, 30s. (Paperback, 18s.)  
Reader and lecturer respectively in the management studies department of Strathclyde, the authors, practical businessmen before teaching, here

present and analyse twenty cases for standard analysis by students: the cases of the drinking foreman, the buck-passing bureaucrat and the declining firm of engineers are typical. How to handle the cases in class is admirably expounded and five to six hours each is suggested. A useful work for teacher and student.

**Investments for Capacity Expansion**  
Size, Location and Time-Phasing. Edited by Alan S. Manne, No. 5 in Studies in the Economic Development in India. 239pp. Allen and Unwin, 45s.

This work's careful calculations, costing diagrams and methodology are not in the light of earlier, mainly political, errors in Indian planning. Cement, caustic soda and aluminium are among Indian industries analysed. Demand curves, import-prosperity, time cycles, and optimal plant sizes are subjected to algebraical treatment. It is not the able contributors' fault that the book appears of greater worth in analysis of past errors than for current operations or future expansions in India. The British consortium concerned with further steelworks at Durgapur could with advantage put one of their economists on to this book; and State managements everywhere should study its lessons, look, preferably mathematically, before you leap ahead on taxpayers' funds.

**Management and the Manager**  
THOMAS KEMPNER and GORDON WILLS (Editors): *Bradford Exercises in Management*. 339pp. Nelson, 84s.

This useful, informative work contains exercises (as case studies) one to twelve used at the highly regarded Management Centre of Bradford University, prepared and edited respectively by its professor of management and administration and its lecturer in marketing, to demonstrate *inter alia* "the interdisciplinary nature of business studies" to post-graduate and post-business-experience students. Notes for tutors are included. The book is a worthy British version of the famous "Harvard case-study method"; but for its price it ought to have had an index. The twelve exercises are also available as

separate booklets. The last one (by Mr. Willis), "Integrated Brewers Ltd.", who developed "a considerably improved draught bitter" than the firm's staple line, is factual, full of statistics, and funny: an admirable model of a case-study and typical of the high standard throughout the work.

**Business Organization**  
JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY: *Business Organization*. 195pp. Studies in Management Series. Allen and Unwin, 33s.

Senior lecturer at the College of Aeronautics, Cranfield, which has an enviable reputation in management training, the author covers three main divisions of his subject: the manager's everyday tasks, the problem of human relationships involved, and the non-human systems and aids available for the discovery and removal of problems. Very useful charts, schematic lay-outs and diagrams add to the comprehensive value of this relatively small book, inaugurating a new and to judge by the list of sequels) interesting series.

**Management and the Manager**  
ROSEMARY STEWART: *Managers and their Jobs*. 180pp. Macmillan, 30s.

This latest of Miss Stewart's books is based on actual interviews and analysis of managerial tasks and managers. "Management," she claims, "is not homogeneous, and its tasks are not always subsumable under general headings." Accordingly management training should take account of dissimilarities. The managers she got to keep "diaries" of their work complained most of time-wasting, time-consuming efforts involving them with others, many of whom ought to have been able to proceed alone. "Too little time" emerges as a constant complaint. Good diagrams and tables point up the general alarm Miss Stewart sounds.

**Surveys of Economic Theory**  
Vol. III. Resource Allocation, taken from the *American Economic Review* and the *Economic Journal*. 207pp. Macmillan, 21s.  
This is the third volume in the familiar format of the *EJ*, to bring

together commissioned surveys of fields of economic theory with help from the Rockefeller Foundation. It contains reprinted articles by Herbert Simon on theories of decision-making not only in economics but also in the behavioural sciences; by Dr. Dorfman on operations (the) research; by Sir J. R. Hicks on linear theory; by Robert Ferber, of the University of Illinois, on research on household behaviour; and by our own A. R. Prest and Ralph Turvey—most timely for British readers, and a locus classicus of its kind—a survey of cost-benefit analysis. Unhappily there is no index.

**Towards a Sociology of Management**  
SIR GEOFFREY VICKERS: *Towards a Sociology of Management*. 200pp. Chapman and Hall, 30s.

The author, who won the V.C. as a First World War officer and headed the intelligence department of MEW in the last war, follows his *The Art of Judgment* (1963) with this collection of papers, mainly on systems of administration in relation to ecology, biology, the physical sciences and human behavioural studies. Incentive, adaptability, responsibility, decisiveness, relations between political society and businesses, automation, public and private undertakings' respective rights and duties: all these are described and weighed with the judiciousness of an eminent legal mind, and in style of model clarity. It is a "must" book for all aiming at success in private or public administration, and is handsomely produced.

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JOHN BROOKS: *The Great Leap*. 382pp. Gollancz, 42s.

Mainly about the startling social changes in American life caused by the unprecedentedly rapid advance in the average American's output and consumption between 1940 and 1965, this easily read book covers business structure, management changes, technology, new materials and methods, and the implications for the future.

**Business Growth**. Edited by R. S. Edwards and H. Townsend. 405pp. Macmillan, 40s.  
The latest in Sir Ronald Edwards' and Dr. Townsend's volumes of

essays arising from their ISE seminars attended by visiting speakers from leading firms, this book contains pertinent contributions on patent law, starting a new business, marketing, data processing, BEA's and J. Lyons's approaches to specific problems, Mr. Sidney Bernstein's view of the starting and running of Granada TV, and many others equally illuminating to students.

**The Technical Elite**  
JAY M. GOULD: *The Technical Elite*. 118pp. plus 50pp. of diagrams, tables, etc. Frank Cass, 42s.

A remarkably stimulating study by an eminent statistician who had the bright idea of taking Veblen's *The Engineers and the Price System* and subjecting its theories to chronological and statistical verification, and then extrapolating to limit our future. Ben Franklin was probably the one and only American scientist of his time; today there are nearly two million trained, most of them with the aim of pushing forward the frontiers of discovery for economic development. The author wisely emphasizes the warning by Veblen that the technologists' numbers would cumulatively mount as against others and that accordingly misalignments would inevitably occur between society's developing needs of differentiated specific elites. The diagrams are excellent and ominous.

**Responsibilities of the Industrialist in Modern Society**  
SIR MAURICE LAING: *Responsibilities of the Industrialist in Modern Society*. The Tavistock Lecture, 1965. 15pp. Tavistock Publications, 5s.

Sir Maurice, then President of the (new) CBI, gave this lecture in the timely series devoted to "the broad aspects of the human sciences" from his experience in his own industry (building and construction engineering) and of British industry as organized (or not?) in the CBI, the NEDC, and the "Little Neddies", in all of which he has played a notable part. It admirably describes the conflicting claims on the modern industrial leader from the State, employees and organized labour, shareholders, customers, ultimate consumers (at home and abroad), local educational and other

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ROBIN BLACKBURN and ALEXANDER COCKBURN (Editors): *The Incompatibles. Trade Union Militancy and the Consensus*. 280pp. Penguin. In association with New Left Review. 6s.

The disenchantment of the trade union movement with "their" government and its economic policies has been one of the remarkable negative achievements of Mr. Harold Wilson's premiership. Only another general election can indicate how deeply this resentment has penetrated, but there have been several recent pointers. Nor will it be enough, surely, for Ministers to indicate that the period of severe restraint is shortly to fade into one of what can only be called severe moderation; that the proposed legislation over incomes and (marginally) over prices has been pronounced "innocuous" by the T.U.C. general secretary, Mr. George Woodcock. The basic question of the role of trade unions in a mixed economy is more sharply relevant now than at any time since the 1930s and it is to this that the thirteen contributors to this book address themselves.

Their success deserves only two cheers. The essays are published by Penguin in association with the *New Left Review* and sponsors surprising bedfellows, Ken Coates and Philip Toynbee, Michael Frayn and Olive Jenkins. The prevailing tone is quasi-Marxist: at the very least, a to-be-well-with-Harold's pragmatism. What is required, says this collective, and often strident voice, is a great assault on privilege and wealth and an abolition of "the fetish objects of British capitalism" (sterling, etc.). All this has a familiar ring, though not one to which we should become deaf. Equally familiar, and making fewer demands on respect and considered attention, is the virulence and spite with which these arguments are advanced as though the hallmark of intellectual respectability was to open a debate by setting opponents' teeth on edge. A stern, factional ideology emerges which is largely untimpered by practical experience of shopfloor politics.

It is for this reason that the book is less valuable than it might have been, and the essay "Unions Today and Tomorrow" by Mr. Jack Jones, their representative to Frank Cousins in the Transport and General Workers' Union, is the outstanding contribution. He is not an intellectual in the somewhat arrogant sense that several of his co-writers would possibly lay

claim to the term—first and last he is a trade unionist.

Mr. Jones sees two initial problems. First, there is *trade union* complicity about the role of the unions in society and the economy which he believes could be a major barrier to the expansion of the movement. Second, there is the remarkable growth of criticism and hostility directed at the trade unions.

A good deal of it (he writes) is part of the same psychological package deal that creates the myths of Jaggers jamming the streets on council estates, with tenants wallowing in housing subsidies. The concept of coals in the bath was replaced first by visions of fockless workers stretched in front of television sets, and later drinking Britain into an economic crisis from fully stocked cocktail cabinets.

The writer then goes on to give a convincing answer to the question George Woodcock has put to unions: "What are we here for?" The prospectus includes a national minimum wage, an extension of public ownership, centralized wage bargaining, stronger groupings of employers and unions, improved industrial training and the abolition of the distinction between "skilled" and "unskilled". Mr. Jones even dares to mention the fourteen million workers who do not belong to the trade union movement—these are a challenge and a reproach which the movement as a whole has not faced. But the collective resources of the unions are immense.

On any one day it wanted, the trade union movement could put a leaflet in every home in the country, have adverts in every national and local paper, and television screen and posters on thousands of hoardings across the whole of the country.

Such constructive suggestions contrast with the frequently threatening tone found in other essays. In Mr. Perry Anderson's, for instance:

If the Labour Party persists in its present course, it is plain that a day of reckoning will eventually come. Then the whole question of the political allegiance of the trade union movement will be opened. Will it opt for a non-party "business" unionism? Will it transfer its existing allegiance? Will it sponsor new political institutions, as it once sponsored the Labour Party? These questions are waiting, just over the horizon, behind every industrial dispute in wage-frozen Britain.

This is an crew whom most people, including Mr. Jones, who is himself

a distinguished member of the *Left* will have difficulty in finding. The much of the book is a piece of aggressive wishful thinking. The particular example is not even. There may indeed be a day of reckoning for the Labour Government, but it is absurd to suggest that this is Mr. Anderson's pose. Behind strike actions during past twelve months.

The basic confusion of the book is to mix "the contradictions of capitalism" with the contradictions of Wilson road to the consensus. Here, it must be supposed, is the voice of the New Left. It is all too like a double exposure of old Left and—alas for some of the earnest young incompatibles—do not speak the language of trade unionism.

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The book can be recommended unhesitatingly to anyone who wishes a working knowledge of a system of computer programming applicable to most computers. Technical Education Second Edition 1966

Teachers are invited to write for inspection copies to:

THE ENGLISH UNIVERSITIES PRESS

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## DRINK WITH ME ONLY

GUILLAUME APOLLINAIRE: *The Wandering Jew and other Stories*. Translated by Remy Inglis Hall. Illustrated by Anthony Little. 198pp. Rupert Hart-Davis. £2 2s.

This spirited collection was first published in 1910 as *Hérisserie et autres nouvelles*. Most of the stories had already appeared in various Parisian magazines between 1902 and 1907. According to the dust-jacket the book was put together by Colette for that year's Prix Goncourt, but the records suggest a more humiliated defeat, by a writer called Louis Regaud.

Apollinaire himself describes the book in his dedication as "phallic as a phallus", which certainly gives it the right whiff of decadence, but it is quite unable to take him seriously for very long at a time when the overall effect is robust. He is prone to pop into the text himself, as Guy de Maupassant did in *Contes*, in an incoherent piece of folk-song called *Que Vlo-ve?* Guy de Maupassant is a drinking companion, a quality which obviously appeals to Apollinaire profoundly.

Record for it is given to the like of a liar Baron d'Ormesan, who manages if not to live then at least to live in 341 different towns at once, after his scientific attempts to turn himself into the Messiah.

The Baron and the poet share more than their imagination, because they both give evidence of what is called "a somewhat disorderly erudition". The Jorge Luis Borges Apollinaire is brilliant at fitting a fantasy into the gaps between items of arcane learning. His stories are full of facts and figures, and show a deep interest in European legend, both profane and ecclesiastical. The stories, moreover, are essentially restless, referring they do to so many different countries and their heroes are seldom to be found in the country where they were born. There are reflections here on the doubt of Apollinaire's own roots, his doubt of Apollinaire's own roots, his doubt of Apollinaire's own roots, his doubt of Apollinaire's own roots.

THE CRATERS OF THE MOON

PATRICK MOORE AND PETER CATERMOLE

An observational approach to the nature of the lunar craters, in which the authors, the well-known astronomer and a leading geologist, put forward conclusive arguments in support of the theory of the volcanic origin of the Moon's craters. A well documented and an extremely readable book on a controversial issue. Fully illustrated with photographs and diagrams. 35s.

LUTTERWORTH PRESS

MARXISM AND HISTORY

Lionel M. Munby and Ernst Wengertmann

A bibliography which lists and discusses 1234 original works in the English language on general problems of the philosophy of history, and on modern foreign and British history; in which a Marxist interpretation of history are exemplified. No rigid definition of Marxism has been applied. The bibliography is in two parts: the first lists the books and contributions to

COLIN SPENCER: *The Tyranny of Love*. 302pp. Blond. 30s.

Colin Spencer is a prolific writer. *The Tyranny of Love* is his fifth novel and the second part of a quartet. It is set in the suburb of a small London builder, whose casual and Rabelaisian lechery destroys his son's sexual balance. Matthew, despite his love for a brilliant scholarship girl, continues to be dominated by his father's image. After a disastrous spell of National Service and an attempt at suicide, he graduates to making passes at his married sister.

Matthew works out rather better than might be expected. He eventually finds homosexual satisfaction with Reg, his sister's husband. The novel's modulation from the comic to the abnormally oppressive is carefully planned, and to some extent convincing, but none of the characters reverberates beyond his own peculiar predicament, and there is a prevail-

ing sense of effects being too keenly strained for.

STEVEN THEMERSON: *Tom Harris*. 349pp. Gollancz Press. 30s.

An anonymous narrator dedicates himself to an attempt to vindicate, and at the same time discover, the essential Tom Harris, Harris, depending on the character's viewpoint, is mysterious, threatening, or simple. After beginning life as one of the London poor (first a barber, then a waiter in a Chinese restaurant), he is plucked from poverty by an eccentric knight. Falsely (?) accused of the knight's murder and imprisoned, he lends a crucial fifty pounds to an Italian inventor and entrepreneur who gratefully sets him up in Milan. The last part of the novel consists of three attempts on the part of the narrator to reconstruct what Harris's account of his life might have read like. At heart this is a straightforward but pointless story laboriously disguised as a *novelle vague* mystery in modish search of its hero.

BRUCE JAY FRIEDMAN: *Black Angels*. 188pp. Cape. 21s.

Bruce Jay Friedman's second collection of short stories exhibits wryness, sickness, and an occasional pinch of black humour. Mr. Friedman keeps his Jewishness within what might be called *Esquire* bounds—there is little of it, and what there is provides background and comic relief rather than theme. The best story in the volume is the title one, "Black Angels". A Fellner-type narrator, Stefano, burdened with a huge house and garden, discovers a group of Negroes who will do his chores with astonishing speed, efficiency, and cheerfulness. They work for so little indeed that they can be making nothing. They do more and more; all the gardening, all the decorating. Finally Stefano asks their leader, in for a drink, and pours out his marital woes and his solubility problems—only to be taken for a huge psychiatrist's fee. But this, like the rest of the stories, whether they treat of the last boxing match in the world or of a card which will tell how the holder will die, or whether they are couched in black humour, daydream, or para-myth, is essentially self-limiting. Once the story has been read and the neat twist appreciated, there is nothing left for a second reading.

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## ALL ENDS UP

FRITZ LEIBER: *The Wanderer*. 346pp. Dennis Dobson. 25s.  
THOMAS M. DISCH: *The Genocides*. 192pp. Whiting and Wheaton. 18s.  
E. C. TUBB: *Death is a Dream*. 170pp. Rupert Hart-Davis. 25s.  
ISAAC ASIMOV: *I, Robot*. 218pp. Dennis Dobson. 21s.  
KURT VONNEGUT, JR.: *The Sirens of Titan*. 319pp. Gollancz. 21s.

This is world-destruction month in the S.F. region. The new writers in this mode seem to be convinced of the necessity to wipe the Tellurian slate clean of human civilization and its history, simply in order to see, zoologically, what would happen then. In Mr. Leiber's version the destructive agent is a synthetic planet which pops out of "hyper-space" into a far from friendly conjunction with Earth, and literally wrenches our planet out of shape by its exaggerated gravitational pull. Mr. Leiber spreads his effects too thinly over a random selection of odd characters in various parts of the world, who, since they never meet, bring nothing to a satisfactory conclusion. On page 325 one of these characters says: "Boy, this second act was a long time coming!" The reader will agree, particularly if he has waded through five preceding pages in which a cat-woman talks continuously in iambic pentameters.

Mr. Disch's earth is devastated by enormous artificial plants disseminated and cultivated by an unspecified alien agency. Sole ultimate survivors appear to be a small New England fundamentalist community, rapidly reverting to cannibalistic savagery, driven to take refuge from alien flame-throwers in the labyrinth of enormous plant-roots. Ingenious biochemistry and horrific anthropological speculations fail to

maintain interest in the implausible situation or hold out any hope for the human race.

Mr. Tubb's preoccupations are more serious and his tackling of them more competent. Three characters suffering from incurable cancer are put into suspended animation round about 1969, and wake some 350 years later to a post-deluvian society dominated entirely by money and hypnotically induced belief in reincarnation. The latter is reinforced by the emergence of "retrofiters" (people who believe they lived in a previous age) who live in specially reconstructed facsimiles of their supposed previous time. Problems of adjustment to the new antisocial, cynical, completely egotistical ethic and of finding means of acquiring its only final arbiter, monetary wealth, are tackled in different ways by the three survivors from our (supposedly) more liberal and socially conscientious era. Surprisingly teasing thread runs throughout, concerning the genuineness of the reincarnation belief. Intelligently written but too narrowly confined to the environs of a ruined London.

Two classics are reprinted this month: Dr. Asimov's seminal studies in the ethics of human/robot relationships, and Kurt Vonnegut's grimly hilarious and totally original satire on social values, religion, war and space-time travel itself, first published five years ago.

### CRIMINALLY SHORT

JOAN AIKEN: *Hate Begins at Home*. 192pp. Gollancz. 21s.

This is melodrama of the finest old vintage water: the terrified girl from the House of Usher, the Coleridge-quoting old butler, a sinister violinist, and little boys thrown away like rags. Best read at a single stretch of tension, melodrama being likely to evaporate if a breath of reality ever seeps in.

JANET CAIRD: *Murder Scholastic*. 224pp. Geoffrey Bles. 18s.

The third of Janet Caird's pleasant Scottish murder stories, again set in a small town and this time with a fine old town school as background: there is a slight overbalance of romance as against honest investigation.



*Correspondance complète de Jean-Jacques Rousseau.* Édition critique établie et annotée par R. A. Leigh. Vol. I, 1756-57. 467pp. Geneva, Les Délices: Institut et Musée Voltaire. 80 Sw. Fr. each.

JEAN GUICHENNO: *Jean-Jacques Rousseau.* Translated by John and Doreen Weightman. Vol. I, 1712-58. 460pp. Vol. II, 1758-78. 316pp. Routledge and Kegan Paul. £5 the set.

Whatever else we may lack, our generation in our country has no lack of hero scholars. There is Nikolaus Pevsner, who once announced unconcernedly that he will be in his eighties before he can hope to finish the last of the Penguin architectural series on his lovingly adopted English counties. There is the Victoria County History. There is the History of Parliament. There is Edmund de Beer, with his massive  *Evelyn* behind him, patiently at work on his massive  *Locke*.

But it may be that the newest of our literary marathons will turn out to be the most heroic of all. Mr. R. A. Leigh, of Trinity College, Cambridge, began his series of volumes of Rousseau's correspondence in 1965, and announced that he would be issuing two books a year for at least twenty years. And here in the first part of 1967 we have four of them already in print, all containing some 350 of the long, lavish quarto pages which we know so well as coming from Les Délices and Theodore Besterman. That *Voltaire* should ever have appeared at the pace it did was remarkable enough. That a native Englishman working in this country should undertake to continue the tradition on such a scale and be of a standing in the world of Continental letters to create the standard edition of the letters of Jean-Jacques Rousseau himself, is more remarkable still.

Every word of these solid and inviting volumes—though not on the best of paper and not attractively produced—is in French. Who can imagine a Frenchman or a Swiss editing the letters of Burke or Hume or Johnson and writing it all in English? Not only does he work in fields beset with rival national attitudes, and alive with rival experts, but also Mr. Leigh apparently works alone. Where at the Yale factories they have knots of scholars, secretaries and machinery to suit, Mr. Leigh has his own efforts to rely on, although he is modest enough to acknowledge that working alone may impair his accuracy a little.

It is an achievement, then, to have begun this task at all, and to have reached even so early a point in its progress must earn our ready admiration. When, perhaps it might be tactless to say if, he finishes this tremendous task, it will be one of the greatest monuments of scholarship that our generation could expect to see. The letters of Rousseau, we are told, could pass through nine successive stages from the *premier jet* to

the autographed missive, and so the copy made for filing purposes. There are sometimes four or five of these versions still extant. The editor has undertaken to sort out the relationship between these various versions for the whole huge mass of correspondence: there are 222 letters in the first two volumes alone, without appendices. He has to decide the best text, often by piecing together a *bricolage*, and make it clear to the reader what he has done. In addition, there are the cross-references and points of explanation and clarification which all such material needs. Mr. Leigh has also located new materials.

It goes without saying that every item in the *Correspondance complète* bristles with critical apparatus. No fewer than five separate types of note are attached to each letter where necessary: on the manuscript original, on previous appearances, then critical, then explanatory matter, and finally an occasional comment. The information contained in this great expanse of annotation is formidable indeed. No general reader would want to see much of it, though it cannot be said that he is given any help in making his choice. This vast book unfortunately is unlikely to be read by itself as some collected correspondence can be: Horace Walpole's for example. It is a dictionary rather than a treatise.

But a dictionary to what? Is even Jean-Jacques Rousseau himself simply for his own sake so weighty a name as to justify a man's deliberately, willingly sacrificing a whole scholarly life to his letters alone? Could any writer ever be important enough for this?

We have only to place a biography of Rousseau alongside these heavy books for this issue to become an intriguing mystery of a rather contrivance kind. M. Jean Guichénno's splendidly written and attractively translated biography now appears in English nearly twenty years after the preface to the first volume was signed. He wrote after reading all the way through the last collected *Correspondance*—he must have known a great deal before he began that heavy enterprise—and his theme is inevitably the mystery of the origin of Rousseau's writings in his earlier life. Every incident of that extraordinary career, from the day when the watchmaker's wayward orphan son found himself shut out of the gates of Geneva, until the *Premier Discours* saw the light, is opened to aetiological study. With the help of M. Guichénno's book and of the *Corre-*

spondance complète we can, if we wish, try to make up our minds. But after all these pains, after all this ingenuity, it is difficult to get very far. The maturing of the personality of the extraordinary Jean-Jacques seems to be a story which no amount of document ferreting or philological-literary analysis can do much further to illuminate. Perhaps it is because the paradoxes are so stark, and the issues still so close to our political imagination, as well as to our romantic sensibility, that the stereotypes about Rousseau the man and Rousseau the writer are so difficult to change.

We may take an example, the most familiar example, in Rousseau the moralist. Now we do not expect a man to live his moral code, though we take a little glum satisfaction in the blameless lives of Spinoza and of Kant, and try to stifle a faint snigger when  *Locke*'s relations with Lady Masham come to be examined. But our permissiveness cannot possibly accommodate the case of Jean-Jacques. The more we feel with the man, the more elusive the writer becomes. For he does enlist our moral sympathy. He did stand to the great writers of his day, Voltaire, Diderot, Condorcet and the rest, as an insistent inquirer after what was right. When he disdains the money which he so much needs, when he affronts the great ladies of the Paris salon, we feel righteous with him in spite of all his theatricality and his boring self-justification. But Rousseau was also the man who could write the following letter to one of the very *maîtresses de salon* he teaches us to despise. A few phrases are surely enough to give an eloquent impression.

Oui, Madame, j'ai mis mes enfants aux Enfants Trouvés. J'ai chargé de leur entretien l'établissement fait pour cela. Si ma misère et mes maux m'ont de pouvoir de remplir un soin si laid, c'est un malheur dont il faut me plaindre. . . . Il ne faut pas faire des enfants quand on ne peut pas les nourrir, qui voit au milieu du pain de mes enfants. . . . Je suis prié de leur dire de ne jamais savoir la douceur des embrassements paternels.

This letter is surely one of the most horrifying documents any literary man has left behind him, and Rousseau's five abandoned infants haunted him for the rest of his life, and have haunted his reputation ever since. He wrote it out in cypher and kept it in perpetuity in his pocketbook. He may never have sent it to the lady evicted. Here if anywhere the evidence has to be clear and reliable and it has to be confessed that our two authors leave us somewhat fogged. Mr. Leigh explains meli-

lously, at considerable length, and with his apparatus refers to no previous printing of the document. He would seem to be claiming to be the first who has published it. But M. Guichénno had printed a full version a decade before without giving any references, since his biography has no reference notes at all. The letter is not in the collected correspondence which he tells us he has read.

There is more to the issue than the personal inconsistency of a moral philosopher. Characteristically Mr. Leigh goes on to give us figures for the number of children abandoned in Paris and the numbers who died. It is in contexts such as this unfortunately that men have tended to make up their minds about illegitimacy and infant mortality in eighteenth-century France. Cited out of their context they give a misleading impression. It may be, as the evidence given here implies, that nearly 30 per cent of all Paris births were recorded as illegitimate in 1750, but it is almost certain that the figure included illegitimate births in an enormous area around the capital. For in the French countryside registered illegitimacy was extraordinarily low. Guilty women apparently carried their burdens to the orphanage in the city. It was not so in Huguir's England, where registered bastardy seems to have been very much more common than in France, in innumerable country villages. And on the whole no more of these poor Parisian children seem to have died than the historical demographer might expect, if Mr. Leigh's figures are both accurate and typical.

The extraordinary thing in Rousseau's letter is that it has a sort of persuasiveness in spite of its author's villainous self-pity. It was true that a family would have dragged his precarious household below the point where his half-literate mistress-wife would have given him any leisure for his work. It may even have been true that the officials at the Paris orphanage might have found for these five entirely unknown babies—not a fact has ever been recovered about a single one of Rousseau's helpless offspring, in spite of three generations of unflagging research—a better home than he could ever have provided himself. But what moralist but he could ever have committed such an argument to paper? And who but Rousseau could have left enough doubt in the mind of posterity to make it impossible to be quite certain that the children existed at all? Some have believed, among both the cynics and the admirers, that he simply made the whole thing up.

Rousseau, the victim of a disease, a fascinating failure, a woman who through his life and not man enough to beget children. They were created by him and about the productive purposes and self-dramatization, as a result of the air costs no more than the ground and saves the deal of time. His book treats the technical side of the work in too much detail for the general reader.

Mr. Leigh has no truck with suggestions and M. Guichénno's annotations and Mr. Guichénno's explanations through the other long familiar stories will can seem.

The breakthrough in the life of Jean-Jacques came with the appearance of the *Premier Discours*, which suggested that the arts and sciences had corrupted mankind. The defence presented by M. Guichénno and Mr. Leigh is useful in fact helps to explain Rousseau's surprising as ever—his discovery of child art, since the Marion Richardson's pioneer work in London and its effective support by Sir Herbert Read. The idea of encouraging children to draw in their own native idiom rather than once used by adults has been with us. It has received imprimatur even of the Post-Modernist, who has had child-art in his stamps. The merits of the illustrations—happily profuse in this book—will therefore come as a surprise to exceedingly few.

From occasional pockets of stubborn resistance—in school-rooms up and down the country, the very function of such a book as this is therefore one of guiding, and then preaching to, the common man. And its value must lie in its help in helping to exploit an old theory and organize its ideas, rather than in its mission-

Proletarian or capitalist, or market society or of honest men, these are the questions which are interesting to ask of the *Le Contrat social* or of *Emile*. *Nouvelle Héloïse*. It does look as if they will be more easily answered after this industry has borne a laborious fruit, for we first see a new and much subtler attempt at a model of literary causation. It is a pity that those who struggle with the problem on our behalf have to condemn themselves to many years of toil in order to pure the mould.

justified in doing, to be serious architectural history.

**Biography and Memoirs**  
WHITTAKER, ROSEMARY. *One Clear Call*. 127pp. Pelham Books, 21s. In December, 1962, Christopher Whittaker, a nineteen-year-old Englishman, died while trying to help two friends who were in difficulties in an experimental diving chamber off Cataline Island, California. In this memoir his sister recounts his brief life with proud affection and interprets for others the zest for diving that cost him his life.

**Education**  
RUSSELL, REX C. *A History of Schools and Education in Lindsey, Lincolnshire*. Part 3. The Church of England and the Provision of Elementary Education. 103pp. Lindsey C. C. Education Committee, 6s. 6d.

The first two parts of this local education history were published in 1965. In this third part the role of the Church of England as the major provider of elementary education in Lindsey is examined, including its contribution towards adult education. The selection of school rules in an appendix makes depressing reading.

TRICKER, R. A. R. *The Contribution of Science to Education*. 154pp. Mills and Boun, 20s.

As a former inspector of schools who served his apprenticeship in the Cavendish, Dr. Tricker is well qualified to discuss the proper place of science in the curriculum. Holding to the ideal of a liberal education, and convinced that science must do more than enable the student to attach a knowledge of facts, he attaches great importance to the history and philosophy of science. Formation, in his view, is more valuable than information. He sees the defects in examinations and has some suggestions to offer.

**Humour**  
BOOTHROYD, BASIL. *You Can't Be Serious*. 95pp. Allen and Unwin, 18s. One of the pieces from *Punch* collected here is set in the departure lounge at the airport. "Outside," writes Mr. Boothroyd, "in the paradisical night a jet worked itself up to a frenzy, screamed for a time and got over it." The sentence typifies the crisp, well-mannered humour with which he views our life and times.

**Literature and Literary Criticism**  
AMERICAN CRITICAL ESSAYS ON THE *Divine Comedy*. Edited by Robert J. Clements. 253pp. University of London Press, £2 15s.

These sixteen essays by twelve scholars born or resident in America have all appeared in print, mainly in specialist journals, between 1921 and 1965. The anthology is dedicated to the late E. H. Wilkins, author of three of the studies included, and it offers to a wider public a distinguished sample of the prolific investigation of Dante now being carried on in America.

*The Gentlewomen of Evil*. An Anthology of Rare Supernatural Stories from the pens of Victorian ladies. Selected and introduced by Peter Haining. 254pp. Robert Hale, 25s.

The preoccupation of the Victorian woman-writer with the occult was very considerable, and in this volume Mr. Haining has brought together some of the most successful of her efforts: Mrs. Oliphant's "The Open Door," George Eliot's "The Lifted Veil," and tales by Mary Shelley, Catherine Crowe, Mrs. Gaskell, Mrs. Henry Wood, Miss Braddon and Mrs. Molesworth. These stories, which do not quite resemble any others in the field of the macabre, as well as being uncommonly readable in themselves, have a great deal to tell us of that highly mysterious entity, the Victorian gentlewoman.

**Music**  
BOYD, MALCOLM. *Harmonizing Bach*. 40pp. Bach's *Instrumental Counterpoint*. 39pp. Barrie and Rockliff, 10s. each. The publishers are extending their list of books on music to include textbooks, although in view of the anarchy in modern composition the view is sometimes expressed that harmony and counterpoint have lost any value

they ever had as technical training. But there is no better approach to the grammatical writing which any beginner needs as a basis for what than Bach, the chorales for harmony, the keyboard inventions for counterpoint. In these manuals a lecturer at Cardiff College of Music and Drama deliberately limits each to a specific stage and problem in the teaching of composition and provides some exercises for the student to work.

**Mythology**  
IONS, VERONICA. *Indian Mythology*. 141pp. Paul Hamlyn, 15s.

This book, an admirable example of Italian printing of the highest order, introduces the western reader to the bewildering cosmogony of Hindu, Buddhist and Jain myths through the most suitable of all possible media—his eyes. There are twenty-four colour plates of great beauty; the black-and-white illustrations, several times as numerous, would even by themselves lend distinction to this volume. In attempting to cover within reasonable compass the enormous Hindu pantheon of divine and semidivine beings, the author has been confronted with an almost insoluble problem of selection; and it is plain that much thought and care have been devoted to the task of presenting to the reader a reasonably representative conspectus of iconographical landmarks. Very few sections of the entire field remain unnoticed; among the more important of these are the erotic sculptures and paintings which, however repugnant to western susceptibilities, fill a definite place as a link between men and gods. The text which accompanies the illustrations is a good summary of the bewildering changes which overtook the status and reputation of even the major deities from time to time. It is not always easy reading, in spite of painstaking and often successful attempts at clarity. The chapters on Buddhism and Jainism are admirably lucid. It would no doubt have been impossible within the compass of a book of this kind to deal adequately with the almost uncountable godlings of purely local repute; but their co-existence alongside the major deities remains even today a major factor in the religious life of India's three quarters of a million villages.

**Natural History**  
PIZZEY, GRAHAM. *Animals and Birds in Australia*. 173pp. Cassell, £5 5s. *Animals and Birds in Australia* is a most exciting pictorial parade of the wildlife of that continent. The book is divided into eight geographical regions (there is an excellent map at the beginning—something so many books of this type omit) and there is a short but informative entry alongside each of the different species—the lyrebird, the kangaroo and the platypus among others have several pages of pictures and description to their credit. The photographs are first class.

**Philately**  
STANLEY, GIBBONS. *Great British Specialised Stamp Catalogue*. Vol. 1: Queen Victoria. 216pp. Stanley Gibbons, 35s. The immediate success of the first edition (1963) was demonstrated by two reprints and in this second edition some of the loose-ends, almost inevitable in a pioneer work of this nature, have been tidied up. In addition, more illustrated work on the Penny Reds and more detailed lists of the proofs and colour trials of the surface-printed issues replace the earlier brief notes. More importantly, many of these are now printed. The other major area of revision is the 1887-1900 "Jubilee" issue and, of course, pricing throughout.

**Reference Books**  
LOCK, MURIEL. *Reference Material for Young People*. (The Readers' Guide Series.) 189pp. Clive Bingley, 33s. Dr. Lock covers the ground of her survey in a continuous narrative, divided by subjects into chapters; what might have been tedious to follow is, however, easy to read and the titles, in bold type, are readily picked out. Her definition of "reference material" extends beyond encyclopedias, dictionaries and almanacs to include current affairs, the world of nature, the world of man (travel, history, geography, the arts); and career books. Though it

is possible, as always, to question the inclusion or omission of individual items, or the occasional blanket approbation of an entire series, the survey undoubtedly gives a good general idea of junior non-fiction today. Where it breaks down a little for the ordinary reader (for whom this series is also intended) is in the failure to indicate the scope of the books in relation to reading age. Thus, *Our Island Story* is mentioned in the same paragraph as Trevelyan's *Illustrated English Social History* and the Quennells; and in the first chapter picture books of general knowledge for quite young children are lumped in with the *Oxford Junior*. On the credit side again Dr. Lock has included references to the publications of several organizations and has a helpful section on dictionaries, magazines and other learning aids in foreign languages, mainly French.

**Science**  
STEWART, HARRIS B. JR. *Deep Challenge*. 202pp. D. van Nostrand, £2 8s.

*Deep Challenge* has been adapted from the author's larger volume *The Global Sea*. Some of the sea's physical features, its meteorology, its marine life and other peculiarities are briefly surveyed. There is some useful information on modern instrumentation and devices for marine investigations. A final chapter speculates uninhibitedly about the probable exploitation of the sea by the year 2000.

**Shipping**  
HYDE, FRANCIS E. *Shipping Enterprise and Management*. Harrisons of Liverpool. With contributions from J. R. Harris and A. M. Bourn. 208pp. Liverpool University Press, 42s.

As its sub-title indicates, this is the history of an individual shipping firm, Harrisons of Liverpool; the main title shows, however, that the book undertakes something more, a general survey of shipping enterprise over the past century, and of its subject-matter as, in the author's words, "an exercise in decision taking".

**Speleology**  
BIDOLI, ALFRED and FRANK, HERBERT W. *Radcliff Darkness*. Translated by B. M. Charleston and H. Griffin. 69pp. 32 plates. Harrap, £3 3s.

Lit up by the flashlight apparatus of the authors, the central European and Balkan caves which they study indeed become radiant. The seventy-two illustrations in this book are a joy to behold, and it needs an effort of the will to remind oneself of the difficulties in which most of them must have been taken. The pictures are carefully designed to show a variety of underground formations, but occasionally the authors allow themselves the luxury of photographing apparent likenesses such as the "jaw

of predatory beast" which might be quite terrifying when stumbled across for the first time. Many of the illustrations, notably a full-page picture of an underground river, are real works of art, and the tones of the coloured illustrations have every appearance of being true to life.

The text of the book is in every way worthy of the pictures, and is more than a mere commentary on them. Professor Bigli deals with cave research, the formation of caves, life in caves, especially their use by man, and the religion of cave men. Dr. Franke treats of sinter formations, how caves breathe, the use of caves by prehistoric man, the proper methods of exploring caves, and photography. The authors' handling of these subjects is at once scientific and readable.

**Social Studies**  
SYKES, ROBERT. *Who's Been Eating My Porridge?* 200pp. Leslie Frewin, 25s.

Hell has nothing on an English prison, if Mr. Sykes is to be believed. In Pentonville, Parkhurst and the rest, as he depicts them, it is all graft and putting the boot in. This story of his delinquent years is the record of a brutal war in which warders and convicts alike ask for and receive no quarter. He shoulders his way from one dreadful incident to another with candour and without remorse.

## REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS

The following have recently appeared in new editions: *A Biographical Dictionary of the Sudan*, by Richard Hill (409pp., £4 10s., Frank Cass); it was first published in 1951 by the Clarendon Press, Oxford, as *A Biographical Dictionary of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan*, and in the new edition the author has added numerous notes and corrections: *History of the White Australian Policy to 1920*, by Myra Willard (217pp., £2 15s., Frank Cass); it was first published in 1923 by the Melbourne University Press, and the new edition has some minor corrections: *Indian Administration*, by Asok Chandra, with a foreword by Radhakrishnan (253pp., 32s., Allen and Unwin); it was first published in 1958; *The Man of Principle*, A View of John Galsworthy, by Dudley Barker (340pp., 28s., Allen and Unwin), first published in 1963 by Heinemann; *Kingship of God*, by Martin Buber, translated by Richard Scheimann (222pp., 30s., Allen and Unwin), first published in 1932; this translation is from the third edition in German first published in 1967; *The United States and the Caribbean*, by Dexter Perkins (197pp., 38s., Harvard University Press); London: Oxford University Press; it was first published in 1947 and this edition is revised.

## REPUBLIC OF VICES

FRANÇOIS FURET ET DENIS RICHT: *La Révolution du 9-Thermidor au 18-Brumaire*. 349pp. Paris: Hachette. 87.75fr.

This is both less pretentious and more interesting than the authors' previous volume of their *de l'histoire* of the French Revolution reviewed in this journal on September 8, 1966. It is also much easier to understand, most of the text this time being in French, with only an occasional lapse into *Nouvel Observateur*. Several old favourites turn up again: "le dérapage des frontières naturelles" (but not this time, as a chapter heading, "désagrégation" gets one mention, and in lieu of "le mental collectif", we have to make do with "la précocité du mental par rapport à l'économie". The authors still favour standing-up and lying-down metaphors ("La nouvelle société se couche dans le lit des duchesses et des princes") and, just in case the reader begins to take things too easily, he is suddenly faced with a sentence such as: "plus sérieux est le reproche de l'inadéquation au réel". But there are some effective verbal fireworks as well: what an excellent comment, for instance, on the Thermidorian ruling class is the author's happy phrase: "Les honnêtes gens ne sont pas toujours des gens honnêtes". There are fewer sexual interpretations of events; sex, in this volume, is kept in its place, albeit a large one in a period devoted so ostentatiously to pleasure: the bed, the salon, the café, the gambling house, the milliner's shop, the arcade, the boulevard, the street, the park, the wood.

As a history of French society

between 9 Thermidor and 18 Brumaire, their account is up to date, intelligent and often extremely perceptive. M. Furet and M. Richet are less concerned to score points off previous historians—possibly because, for this neglected period, there are fewer historians to score points off—and more concerned to get on with their narrative. Hence the absence of *on* ("on a prétendu", "on a décrit", "on a eu tendance à", &c.). They are excellent on the famine of 1795-96, on the persistence of banditry in many areas, on the location and spread of the White Terror, on habits, tastes, pastimes and everyday life. Their description of the various Jacobin movements outside France is detailed, without being boring or repetitive. The account of Paris society under the Directory is eloquent and, in its description of vice, almost as joyful as those who indulged. There is an interesting section on the triumph of the Rive Droite, the development of the Chaussée d'Antin and the consequent increasing segregation of the Paris poor in the quarters of the north-east, east, and south-east. The authors are perhaps best of all on education, an overriding preoccupation with a regime dominated as much by scholars and great teachers as by speculators, *enrichis* and generals.

All these themes are brought into dramatic relief by admirably chosen illustrations that give the full impact of the change of tone of a period less

concerned with allegorical figures, *la trompette guerrière* and with propaganda, and more with the pleasures, miseries and vices of the private individual. Thermidor and the Directory were periods both cruel and selfish; but they were honest at least in their awareness of corruption and in the brutality of their self-analysis. Prints like "Le Séral", "Le Muscadin", "Le Petit Coblenz", "Isabeau's strange, semi-cadaverous, figure of conceit and pride of caste, held up by monumental chokers, airing themselves on the Grands Boulevards (*le flirt, la bouillotte*)"—are both frank and elegant portrayals of glass-fronted vice and indulgent comments on the social assumptions of a permissive period. When and where, one asks, faced with the slightly drooping ladies of "Le Séral", beplumed and with breasts dribbling invitingly over the top of Grecian bodices, their hair in contrived disorder falling into suggestive ringlets, their expressions perhaps slightly jaded but still willing, if not eager, can vice have been more attractive, more easily accessible, and cheaper? (It was even available for paper money.) In so many ways, these illustrations suggest, Thermidor and what followed must have represented the revenge both of gilded youth—and of vicious old age, helped on by pretty pink beverages, and its gaze magnified by a battery of *façes à main* and spectacles, on the pur-

tanical middle age groups—the thirties and forties—who had attempted to set up the Republic of Virtues.

Decaying vice was not the only thing to get back into its own during those years. There is a bizarrely dreamlike print of the returning émigré, in tattered coat and breeches holed—"l'habit à la française" though—walking down a poplar-lined avenue, unevenly paved, his nose in the air, his eyelids haughtily lowered, his hand poised on a long, decorative stick; his other hand in his embrodered, heavily patched waistcoat—heading for whatever remains of his estate, the very picture of pride of birth; clearly he at least has learnt nothing. Nor are the illustrations one-sided; plenty show what the period meant, in terms of misery and humiliation, for the common people. Perhaps wretchedness and rage have never been represented in such delicate shades—blues, lilacs, sepia, pinks—as in the generally anonymous aquatints of 1795 onwards. Even the horrors of Cayenne acquire a decorative quality. Grown men carry the mark of vice; but often too they have the faces of choirboys and eighteenth-century cherubs. One of the many merits of this illustrated volume is to remind one of the gulf of taste that separates the Directory from the physically and morally hideous regime that followed the 18 Brumaire. The costumes of the

Directors are quaint, but decent; they are not ridiculous and not like those of the *Sacré*. The Directory could illustrate greed, gambling, depravity and tastelessness.

The authors are not quite so Barre when they write that Colloot; Barre was not that person. He got it, it is true, in the boat when it sailed. Nor was he quite fair on Dr. Sydenham when they call him "an American physician". He is English, and has yet been drained away.

Miss Jerry Allen's biography of Conrad, *The Sea Lord* (360pp. The Seafarer, £3 3s.)—a successor to her earlier work, *The Thunder and the Sea*—was published in the United States in November 3, 1966, alongside Norman Sherry's investigation into the sources of the novel *World*. It is now published in an excellent new edition together with his *Illustrations*, which has been added a new preface by the author. Miss Allen has also written a word whose main purpose is to clear the picture from the American edition of the course of her various researches

have lost weight, continuous movement and changing colour, and the artist's chief problem is that he not make a stand still long enough to study. With the aid of reproductions in colour Mr. Sherry shows the step-by-step process of one of his paintings and working models for interpretation of the sea in all its moods. While it is of paramount importance to the artist, and the artist's chief problem is that he not make a stand still long enough to study. With the aid of reproductions in colour Mr. Sherry shows the step-by-step process of one of his paintings and working models for interpretation of the sea in all its moods. While it is of paramount importance to the artist, and the artist's chief problem is that he not make a stand still long enough to study. With the aid of reproductions in colour Mr. Sherry shows the step-by-step process of one of his paintings and working models for interpretation of the sea in all its moods. 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